

AMERICAN AGRICULTURIST.

Designed to improve the Farmer, the Planter, and the Gardener.

AGRICULTURE IS THE MOST HEALTHY, THE MOST USEFUL, AND THE MOST NOBLE EMPLOYMENT OF MAN.—WASHINGTON.

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FOR PROSPECTUS, TERMS, &c.,

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TRAINING YOUNG FOREST TREES.

We know of no more delightful occupation than that of training a young growth of forest up into comeliness and beauty; serenely contemplating as we do so, the luxuriance of their future growth under the training so carefully given them, and looking forward to the time when we can repose at our ease beneath their grateful shadows. Every land-holder almost, whose land is in the country, be it farm, or otherwise, if of any dimensions beyond a building-lot, can have his little plantation of forest in a desirable position upon it—not for the purposes of fuel exactly, but as a sort of pleasure-ground, or attachment thereto; or, no matter for what purposes, only because he chooses to have it, and that is reason enough.

We have a young forest of our own, covering perhaps ten acres of land, a new growth sprung up from the dilapidations of an ancient wood, where it had been recklessly haggled out from time to time, by rude and careless axe-men. The young trees grew in great variety in thick clusters of several saplings, from the roots of decaying stumps, or in single stems a few feet apart—some crooked, gnarly, and worthless—others the perfection of grace, vigor, and promise. It was, in fact, but a short time since, a tangled brushwood—purposely so, on our part—for we preferred that the young growth should strive *with itself* for a few years, to develop the strongest of the saplings, with the underbrush to shade their roots, and keep the earth moist for their more rapid shooting up. Some years ago, we took the young forest to do, with hatchet in our own, and two or three sharp axes in the hands of an equal number of sturdy axe-men to follow us. A quick eye, and rapid movement on our part soon put a *hack* into every sapling to be removed, which the ready blow of the choppers at the root, displaced and laid low as we proceeded. A day or two of this, and the ground was covered with prostrate trees, two to four inches in diameter at the foot, ready to be drawn out, trimmed, and made into stakes, poles, or firewood, at leisure.

In this first thinning operation, not more than one-fourth, perhaps not one-eighth of the young trees were cut out, that will be necessary to give the *finished* wood a final dressing; but enough to open the standing trees to the increasing influences of the sun and air, that their tops be not drawn up too weedily, and give them a sickly expression. Four or five years

after this first dressing, another like service was performed, taking perhaps half the number that had been previously left; while, the other day, we walked again into the wood, armed as before, and surprised at the prodigious growth of the young trees, many of them thirty feet high and upwards, now nourishing a turf of soft grass beneath their branches, but still crowding each other for room, and tending their tops too pointedly upward, to develop the full character of each particular variety—the distinguishing feature which every piece of ornamental forest should possess.

But now, instead of, as at first, a work of pleasure in looking at the labor we had to do, it smote us to the heart. Here, on every side, spreading out into the finest models of luxuriance and beauty, were thrifty oaks of a dozen varieties, and in all their sturdy cast of character. Elms in every differing figure of branching, towering, or bending form of head, tracing out every imaginable line of Gothic vagary; maples, hard and soft—the last, one of the most graceful trees that ever grew, with its waving, lifting, and in full growth, towering head of changing spray and leaf. There were ashes—the white, and the water—tall, straight, and still aspiring. There was also the beech, with its light, smooth, gray bark, and dry leaves still on the branches, and rustling in the winds. The hickory, thrifty, and smooth, pushing up a rapidly growing trunk, tempting the chopper's axe in its promise of "what a capital helve-stick that would make!" Then stood around the dogwood, the shad-blow, and thorn, beautiful, fragrant flowering trees, small in stature; the ironwood, slender, but of comely shape; and then the grand young American bass-woods, or lindens; now and then a tulip, or white-wood, by-and-by to be a giant among them all; and so on, through the long variety, all beautiful, luxuriant, and most charming to look upon. Painful as was the task before us, the very beauty and promise of the young trees only rendered that task the more imperative. To this reluctant labor too, was to be added the difficulties of selection among so many equally beautiful specimens, which to leave, and which to sacrifice; yet that selection had to be made, and with a heavy heart we commenced, while the axe followed, in its rueful work. As I hacked, and the woodmen following, hewed their progress through this work of destruction, I could not but be amused at the different thoughts each party entertained as we went along. To best execute a work like this, good axe-men should always be employed, and the only beauty such men find in a tree, is the pleasure of cutting it down. We were continually gazing aloft to seek out the least promising and apparently

defective head of the trees to mark for cutting, oft giving vent to regrets of the necessity of spoiling so many fine young trees, while the choppers were in high triumph over the "capital straight poles, stakes, and oven-wood" they were making, and grunting out their "pity's that so much good pasture-land should be taken up for a wood lot that would never pay for growing!" Why, the rascals would have hewed down every stick in the grove as merrily as they ever sat down to a dinner, if we had only given the word.

The task was finally done. The interlacing tops were disengaged, and in one, two, or three days' labor more than a thousand of the finest models of forest growth and comeliness lay prostrate, ready to be trimmed and cut up, food for fire, or other baser purpose. And now the wood looks more beautiful than ever. It is combed out, with its forest locks fresh and graceful. The tops are spreading broad, and waving; the sun can now shine in on every side of every tree for a small portion of the day; and free from restraint, each, in its own peculiar way, can go on rejoicing. Beautiful trees! How rapidly, gratefully, wantonly, vigorously too, you will grow henceforward, little conscious that the very luxuriance of your development will bring us again, should life be spared—alas, that we should grow infirm and decrepid, while you will flourish in matured grandeur for ages after us—with the deadly axe among you for still further decimation!

But we unwittingly are getting lugubrious and melancholy over a subject which should be delightful both to our thoughts and occupation, and will close at once, in hopes that our readers, more or less, who have opportunity and inclination, will follow our example, and enjoy themselves in the same agreeable, as well as useful recreation.

LETTERS FROM PROF. NASH.—No. 4.

IRRIGATION.

On a former occasion, I spoke of the Duke of Portland's water-meadows, near Mansfield, Nottinghamshire. These improvements were commenced in 1816. Most of them have been in operation more than a quarter of a century. Time has thoroughly tested their value. The lands under irrigation continue to produce extraordinary crops without manure, thus furnishing the means of enriching other lands. Suffice it to say, that 360 acres of reclaimed water-meadow, formerly worth less than £100 annual value, are now worth nearly £4000 a year, and that although the expense has been great, yet the improvements are this day paying eight per cent., nearly twice the usual rate of interest in that country on the outlay.

I cannot say that the irrigation of lands is common in England. It is not. Isolated instances of it, however, exist all over the kingdom. In one place you will see a meadow, of 20, 50, or 100 acres, and in some acres more, as in that of the Duke of Portland, the most beautiful conceivable, and as productive as beautiful, and you will be surprised to be told, that, fifteen, twenty, or thirty years ago, that meadow was worth but three shillings an acre; that under-draining and irrigation have produced the change, and that now it rents for a price nearly equal to the fee simple value of our best lands. In another place, you will see, the sloping base of a hill teeming with verdure. You would think it the best land in the world. The condition of unimproved land adjoining shows it to have been the worst. You look on this and on that, and if the owner is not present to tell you, you can see for yourself, that under-draining and irrigation make the difference. Indeed you need not be told, that one of these fields is worth but two or three shillings a year, and that the other is worth as many pounds, for the price, as with goods exhibited in shop-windows, is written on the articles. You could see with your own eyes, that a few acres of the one would enrich the holder, that twenty fold as much of the other would impoverish him. Your readers, I suppose, have all heard of the Maine Yankee, who said to the passing stranger: "I'm not so poor as you think, for I don't own this ere land." In another place, you will see a torrent, issuing from some elevated glen, turned aside from its time-worn channel, and made to spread beauty and fertility over a whole mountain slope, where before, as is shown by the bordering sterility, nothing beautiful or useful grew. It is intensely interesting to witness such triumphs of human skill over the asperities of nature.

Irrigation in Europe, so far as I had opportunity of observing, is confined to grass lands. Lands thus improved are used either for mowing or pasturage. If well under-drained, they are not unhealthy for grazing animals; though, if not thoroughly drained, they produce the foot-rot among sheep. Lands that are naturally level require to be thrown into slopes with a descent of at least one inch in ten feet. This, in countries where a man's labor is estimated but half as high as that of a horse, may be done with the spade and wheel-barrow. In our country, I think it will have to be done with the plow and scraper, or not at all. A fall of about five inches in ten feet is the most desirable; one from an inch to a foot and even more, in the same distance, will answer the purpose; though it is manifest that the more gradual the descent, the narrower should be the slope between the main water-course and the catch-drain next below it, from which the water is to be distributed again over another slope, and so on. I might go into a detailed account of many water-meadows, which fell under my observation while abroad; but as no two human faces are precisely alike, so probably no two pieces of land are exactly alike in themselves and in their relations to water. An exact description, therefore, of the management of one could not become a rule for the management of another, even if the first were managed in the best possible manner, which might not be the case. For this reason, I suppose that a statement of the general prin-

ciples on which irrigation is practised, would be of greater service to the American farmer than any detailed descriptions of what others have done.

All know that water is essential to the growth of plants. It is true that the Maker and Executor of Nature's laws, has given to the atmosphere those hydraulic powers which secure the fall of rain at very nearly such times and in such quantities as best to promote vegetation. It is true, also, that, by acting in harmony with the Creator's natural laws—directing our action with a constant reference to them—we can sufficiently guard against injury from the unequal distribution of water, in different times and places. Sufficiently deep plowing, with under-draining where the water will not pass off readily without, is a complete guaranty against any great damage from too much or too little rain. The Almighty has promised seed time and harvest while the earth endures. He has not, however, promised, that there shall be a harvest where the ground is not prepared; nor, that there shall be as rich a harvest where it is but half prepared as where it is well prepared. Every falling rain benefits the well-tilled field more than it does the half-tilled. Nearly all seeming failures of the divine promise with regard to "seed time and harvest," may be traced distinctly to some fault of the husbandman. Either he had not studied the Creator's laws, concerning soils, and rains, and vegetable growth as he ought, and was therefore ignorant of them; or, knowing them, he failed to put his action in harmony with them. As with rains, those natural irrigators of all fields, so with streams, whether natural or formed of drainage water, the husbandman who puts his grounds in the required condition, derives the greatest advantage.

Although the rains of heaven, for most purposes of agriculture, generally irrigate lands enough and seldom too much, provided always that the husbandman has done his duty; yet it is found that some crops, among which are the most nutritious grasses, will do better, if water in larger quantities is run over the surface, and permitted to sink though the soil and sub-soil into the earth. It must not stand on the surface. This would be injurious. It must not remain in the soil or sub-soil. In either of these three cases its tendency would be to kill out the sweet, and to bring in some sour grasses. A soil, in order to be improved by irrigation, must be sufficiently porous to permit the water to pass freely through it; and if the sub-soil is impermeable, the land must be thorough-drained. With these conditions, no doubt whatever remains of the benefit of irrigation. Scores of cases, as that of the Duke of Portland, at Wellbeck, near Mansfield, have proved this as clearly as any thing was ever proved; for in several of these cases, to my certain knowledge, and I believe in others also, the poorest of all lands, worth in their original state next to nothing, and producing sickness in the neighborhood at that, are now giving more feed than was ever known in the best of lands without irrigating, and are highly tributary to the uplands of the farm besides. How the water of irrigation produces such effects is not agreed; the fact that it does, seems sufficient for practical purposes; and I might therefore proceed directly to those practical suggestions for the irrigation of land,

which I intend to make, either now or at some future time; yet, as I am one of those who believe that we ought to "inquire into the reasons of things," and to search them out if possible, I shall first dwell a little on some facts which seem to me to throw light on the *why* and *wherefore* of the benefit of irrigation.

In the first place, it should be kept distinctly in mind that irrigation is not the flooding of land; that it is *the passing of water gently over the surface, freely through the soil, and speedily away into the deep earth, or through well-laid drains, as the case may be.*

In the second place, it is to be considered that waters differ much from each other. Some are highly charged with sulphate of iron, or with the protoxide of iron, or both. Especially is this liable to be the case with water from the drainage of low lands. To irrigate with such waters would be injurious. Other waters are nearly pure; but most are charged more or less with ingredients favorable to vegetable growth. In some cases these ingredients are mostly soluble, ready at once to favor the growth of plants. In others, considerable amounts are insoluble—vegetable and animal matters floating in the water, rather suspended in it, scarcely visible, ready to be deposited as the water trickles along the surface or enters the soil, and to become soluble under atmospheric influences, and thus to minister to the future wants of plants. The conclusion can hardly be avoided, that the purer the water, the less valuable for purposes of irrigation; and the more impure, the more valuable.

With regard to irrigation with water nearly pure, the benefit, it would seem must be comparatively small, and must arise from the following causes: 1st, the water being completely at the control of the owner, can be made effectually to prevent injury from drouth; and 2d, it is capable of absorbing various gases from the air and imparting them to the roots of plants. It has been ascertained that water absorbs and holds in solution about 3½ per cent. of its own bulk of oxygen, 1½ per cent. of nitrogen, 1½ of hydrogen, 100 or a little more of carbonic acid, and upwards of 700 of ammoniacal gas. Now, if a portion of water were to pass over sand and pebbles, as in the channel of a brook, it might retain these gases for a long time; but passing among the living roots of grass, it may be supposed to give them off to the growing plants, as required by them, and then to absorb the same again from the atmosphere, and again to give them to the plants, thus making itself a regular carrier of nutritious gases, taking load after load, so to speak, from the atmosphere to the roots of the growing crops. I do not say that any positive proof can be adduced, to show that the water used in irrigation performs this office; but a presumptive evidence of it arises from the fact that the water, after being detained a while, by any obstruction, in one place, is found to contain less of the above-mentioned gases, than that which has been steadily flowing. It would seem that the standing water had been deprived of its oxygen, carbon and ammonia by the plant roots, and owing to its stillness—having a smooth unbroken surface—had not been able to re-supply itself from the air; while the running water, though it might have given off as much, and perhaps more, to the roots of grass, had fully re-supplied itself from the air, owing to its motion

being broken into ripples, and presenting an enlarged and constantly renewed surface to the atmosphere.

With regard to waters naturally impure, it is manifest, that whatever good offices are justly ascribable to pure water, appertain to them also—they furnish all needed moisture and may finally be presumed to convey nutritious gases from the air to the roots of plants; and in addition to this they furnish soluble salts and soluble geine, or humus for the present use of the plants, and more or less of insoluble matters for their future use.

As regards the superior value of waters artificially impure—made so by receiving the sewerage of cities and towns—there is no mystery in the case. The water in this case, as for instance, in the irrigated fields in the neighborhood of Edinburgh, is made the carrier of vast amounts of highly fertilizing matter, from the city to the fields.

I must defer for some future occasion, what I had intended to say on the best modes of irrigating lands.

Amherst, Feb. 6, 1854.

Points by which Lean Cattle are to be Selected.

We recommend a careful perusal of the following article to all who are engaged in breeding or feeding cattle. We know nothing better on this subject. The writer is evidently both practically and theoretically familiar with all its details. A single article like this, or the one on Farm Horses, which we gave in No. 23, is alone well worth the annual subscription price of our paper to the breeder.

The first point to be ascertained is the purity of the breed of the animal whatever it may be, as by that point the propensity or degree of disposition to fatten is determined in the individuals of the special progeny. Several marks will show the purity of the breed; the color is a good mark, when the colors are always definite. The bald skin around the eyes and nose is always unspotted and definite in animals of good organization. The horns, when present, are long or short, according to the breed; smooth and tapering; white throughout in some varieties, and tipped with black in others. The shape of the horn is not an essential point.

The form of the carcass is the next important consideration, and may probably be said to be the chief point of attention, and to outweigh the quality of the breed. Lean animals may be supposed to exist in a quarter to a half-fattened condition, and in that state the same properties of conformation may be seen as in the matured condition of fat. If the quantity of flesh that is present does not exhibit the necessary points, the bones must be nicely examined, if they are so connected as to afford the points in the future process of fattening. These points are the same as have been mentioned in the prime condition in our last article, and a very acute discernment is required to discover the presence of these points in the lean condition of the beast. The judge must anticipate the realization of the points from the lean to the fattened condition.

The nature of the bone requires much attention; a round thick bone indicates a slow feeder, and also an inferior description of flesh. The opposite properties of a round bone are indicated by the flat bone, when seen on a side view, and narrow when viewed from behind or before the animal. As the bones are the walls of the animal habitation, and serve the purpose of carrying or supporting the flesh, the quantity must bear to the whole carcass the smallest possible ratio that is proper to the economy of structure. The texture of the bone should be small-grained and hard; the bones of the head

fine and clean, and not carrying flesh to give the ox a heavy-headed and dull appearance. In order to endure traveling, the hock and forearm should be clean and muscular. Large joints indicate bad feeders. The neck of the ox is small from the back of the head to the middle of the neck, and contrary to the sheep in this respect.

The eye is a strong index of good breeding, or refinement in the organization, in being full, clear, and prominent; quick, but not fiery, and placid, along with a large expression, which indicates many properties in the ox, and is always attendant on fine bone. A dull, heavy eye indicates a slow feeder; and a rolling eye, showing much white, is expressive of a restless, capricious disposition, which is incompatible with quiet feeding. A calm, complacent visage strongly indicates a fine and patient disposition, and, of course, kindly feeling. The eye most often tells the condition of health; a cheerful organ accompanies good health, while a constantly dull eye proves the probable existence of some internal lingering disease. But the latter property is quite different in character from a natural or constitutional, phlegmatic dullness.

Next must be ascertained the state of the skin. The "touch" is afforded by the skin, and the feeding properties of an ox are judged by that criterion beyond any other means that can be applied. The touch may be hard or mellow, fine or harsh, good or bad, as it is frequently termed. A slow feeder is marked by having a thick-set, hard, short hair, which constitutes a bad touch; a thin, meagre, papery skin, covered with thin silky hair, though the opposite to the one just mentioned, does not constitute a good touch, but is indicative of weakness of constitution, though probably of good feeding properties. A good touch will be found in a thick loose skin, floating as it were on a layer of soft fat, yielding to the least pressure, and springing back towards the fingers like a piece of soft, thick, chamois leather, and covered with thick, glossy, soft hair; the hair looks rich and beautiful, and seems warm and comfortable to the animal. A curly pile of the hair indicates a vigor of constitution, and also a propensity to fatten; such a skin is termed gelatinous and resilient in the fashionable language of the day, and mossy, from resembling a bed of fine soft moss. The sensation of a fine touch is very gratifying to every judge and amateur of breeding; the animal is liked, and more especially as it is mostly accompanied by a symmetrical form. Long practice is required to appreciate a fine touch; but when it is acquired, it is alone sufficient to estimate the feeding properties of an ox, as a general refinement of organization accompanies it, in purity of blood, gentle disposition, fine bone, and the other properties of symmetrical form.

The terms that are used in the science and practice of breeding, as blood, breed, pedigree, and descent, are all contained in the one designation of a refined organism, which comprehends a general refinement in every part, in the proportion which the extremities bear to the body, and to one another. Of all parts of the frame the head is the most difficult of the proper refinement, and it accordingly denotes in no small degree the state of purity in which the animal exists as to the special excellence. The head must be small in comparison with the body, and neat and clean. The face must be long from the eyes to the point of the nose, which most essentially constitutes the handsome appearance. The skull must be broad between the eyes, and taper very considerably and regularly to the nose. The muzzle is fine and small, and nostrils capacious. The skull contracts little above the eyes, the crown of the head is flat and strong, and the horns protrude horizontally from each side, and afterwards assume the medium direction between the rectangle. The curvature should scarcely reach the vertical line from the root of the horn; and if the point does reach it, the further progress is not

allowed. The horn is short, rather thin, and thickening to the root, which is a mark of vigor and functional strength. The ears should be large and somewhat erect, tapering in the form, agile in motion, and silky in the hair. The neck must be of medium length, short rather than long, which marks a strong propensity to fatten, and is attended with a full neck vein. It must join the shoulder with a very gradual slope, and taper to the head, having little or no rise from the top of the shoulder to the root of the horns, to destroy the straight line along the back to the plumb line of the buttocks, over the set of the tail. A droop of the neck from the top of the shoulder to the head indicates a weakness of constitution, and too close affinity in breeding. The legs below the knee should be rather short than long, and clean made. They should stand wide apart, and placed to support the body very easily. The tail shows a refined organization, and also a debilitated constitution from too near affinities. In the pig, these two properties are soon apparent. In cattle it should be clean, of long hair, of medium thickness, and furnished at the end with a handsome brush or tuft of strong bristles.

The chest of the ox must be wide, in order to afford ample room to the actions of the flux and reflux of life. A slightly truncated cone is the best representation of the chest—wide below, and tapering to a round top of the shoulder, which should be covered with flesh. The shoulder-bone must slope into and join the fore ribs, so as to prevent any vacuity in the fore-girth, and the arch of the ribs from the backbone terminates in the undercenter of the belly, so as to make a straight line with the shoulder. The short ribs must join close to the hook-bone, and not leave a deep hollow gap; the hook-bones are wide apart, in order to give the utmost expansion; buttocks broad, deep, and straight; twist wide; set of the tail low, and the hanging of it perpendicular, without any bends.

The length of the tail reaches the heels. The flank of the animal, or fleshy ligature which joins the lower belly with the hip, must be large, full, and prominent, being much required to continue over the thigh, to the plumb line of the buttock from the root of the tail, the straight line from the shoulder along the extreme ribs of the animal, which constitutes the side of the parallelogram, which figure a fattened carcass is expected to represent. The belly must not hang down in a loose dependence but be easily carried by a straight line from betwixt the fore legs to the twist and outside the hams. On the other hand, the entrails must not be too much curtailed, to destroy the vigor of function that is so essentially necessary to the prosperity of animal life.

The joints must be flat and broad on the legs of animals; bones round on the top of the shoulder, hooks, and fore legs; clean and thin in the hind legs, and of the chaps; flat in the shoulders and thighs, and low along the back, ending in the extremity of the tail. The hoofs must be clean and neatly fashioned, short and well rounded, bright in color, and not covered with any hair. The extent of foot must be proportional to the carcass to be carried, but always small rather than large.

All improved breeding has proceeded from the casual productions of nature which are seen to possess the properties that constitute value and also a capability of transmitting the qualities to their progeny. The rules and considerations that have been now detailed may be impossible of application in the whole number, but a major part of them will constitute a direction of judgment for practical use. The chief difficulty occurs in the case of the lean ox, as the condition of the fattened animal very often conceals the deformities of shape, and may even produce in itself some symmetrical objections. The judge examines the points of value in the flesh, both in quantity and quality, estimates the weight, and fixes the probable value. But, in judging of a lean ox, its future

symmetry and condition must be foreseen; the rules, if studied practically, will enable an inquiring observer to foresee these points, and in judging between a number of valuable points, it should ever be remembered that purity of breeding will always insure aptitude to fatten, which in its turn will insure the largest remuneration for the food consumed.

In judging fat animals the touch is the chief criterion—at least, the confirming test. In lean beasts the eye must distinguish the points of excellence, assisted by the touch, as to the skin, and position of the ribs, and joining of the bones. But it has much the widest range in the case of lean animals, and the judgment is also more largely called into action in estimating the distant possession of excellence, than in calculating the comparative and absolute value of the existing productions. The one case exists in substance, the other only in idea; the first is a certainty, the last a visible probability. Both cases require an acute discernment, a correct observation, a well-stored memory, and a most calculating judgment. Such a rare combination of qualities accounts for the very small number of really good judges that are found.

FISH MANURE.

(Continued from p. 357.)

Prior to taking any discussion on the subject, Mr. Foster, the Secretary, read the following paper by Mr. J. B. Lawes, who was unable to be present, on fish manure:—Some years ago, a gentleman, who possesses a large property in Newfoundland, and who carries on an extensive business in salting cod fish, requested me to make some experiments, with a view to converting the unsaleable fish and cod fish offal into a manure, and also to ascertain whether the dried cod fish would be valuable as a food for animals. An account of some of the trials of the dried fish itself as food for animals, is now in print, and will shortly appear in the "Journal of the Royal Agricultural Society of England." To explain, however, the conclusions arrived at in reference to the use of the offal fish and refuse as manure, the following short statement of the process employed in curing the fish for food may be given:—Platforms project out into the sea, upon which stand the men who cure the fish. The fish are handed up from the boats, and the curers split them down with a knife, take out the back bone and the offal, and throw it into the sea; and, having sprinkled some salt over the fish, it is removed and dried in the sun. The quantity of offal thus thrown away amounts to some hundred thousand tons. The question was not whether such matter, when properly prepared, would be a good manure—for of this there could be no doubt—but it was, whether a manure could be prepared which would, in point of composition, supply certain constituents at a cheaper rate than guano and other manures already in the market. Looking at the question in this point of view, the inquiry showed that there were difficulties in the way of attaining such a result, which were sufficient at the time to lead to an abandonment of the idea of converting this refuse into a marketable manure. Thus, the fishing season is confined to a short period during summer, and time and labor are then so valuable, that every man, woman, and child is employed in some process connected with the preparation of the cod as food. Indeed, so important is it that the population should not be occupied with other pursuits, that the cultivation of the land is neglected; and the proprietors of the fisheries supply the people with food and other necessities imported from other countries. Under these circumstances, it was evident that, in order to convert the offal into manure, one of two things must take place; either part of those already employed in catching or curing fish for food, must leave that occupation for the other, or a large number of people must be brought from elsewhere, and be maintained by the proprietor for the sole purpose of making manure.

With regard to the first of these alternatives, it is clear that, so long as a ton of dried fish would sell for much more than a ton of the manure, it could not be to the advantage of the proprietor to change the occupation of the people; for the cost of the fish itself, apart from that of the labor employed in preparing it, would be comparatively small, whilst that of the latter would be nearly as great to convert a ton of offal into manure as it would to convert a ton of the cod fish into food. On the other hand, to maintain a larger number of people on the island for the purpose of converting the offal fish and refuse into manure, seemed not likely to be profitable, unless the manure were to sell for a higher price than its composition and the relative value of other manures in the market would justify. Under these circumstances, it appeared to me that unless the offal fish and fish offal could have been kept until the busy season was over, and then worked up for manure, it would not be profitable to engage in the manufacture; and as this even involved some immediate expenditure of labor, and as such matters enter very rapidly into putrefaction, I could not see that the undertaking of converting the Newfoundland offal fish and fish offal into a portable manure for competition with others in the market was practicable. With regard to the more special subject to be brought before the society this evening—viz., Mr. Pettitt's Fisheries Guano—I see that a discussion has taken place on this subject before the Royal Dublin Society; from the report of which I think we may gather that large quantities of offal, which at present are thrown into the sea, would be brought to shore, provided they could be sold on the spot at a price of from 30s. to £2 per ton. I also gather from the same paper, that Mr. Pettitt's process consists in mixing sulphuric acid with the fish material, and drying it. It certainly appears to me, that a fish manure prepared by such a process, although undoubtedly an excellent manure, is nevertheless widely different from guano, both as to the constituents which it supplies and to the state of combination of those constituents. In guano we find large quantities of phosphate of lime (in a state of comminution in which it is more readily available than in most other manures,) whilst, judging from the analysis by Professor Way, the product of Mr. Pettitt's process contains only a very small quantity of phosphate of lime. In guano, again, the whole of the nitrogen, or nearly so, exists either in the form of ammonia or of other very readily active nitrogenous compounds, the products of the perfect chemical destruction in their passage through the body of an animal of those more stable nitrogenous compounds of which the bodies of the fish so largely consist. In the product of Mr. Pettitt's process, however, I presume there can be but little of the salts of ammonia or the other compounds resulting from the digestion, assimilation, and re-transformation of the substance of the fish when it has been used as food. In fact, the proposed fish manure is dried animal matter, with but little chemical alteration; in which, therefore, a large proportion of the nitrogen will still exist in its original state of combination. However valuable, therefore, such a substance may be as a manure, it can certainly with no propriety be called a guano. The chemical effect of the sulphuric acid on the animal matter, and its utility in the process, are, indeed, not very obvious. It would probably serve, on the one hand, somewhat of an antiseptic; and on the other, to retain the small quantity of ammonia which might still be formed. Again, the example of fish-manure analyzed by Professor Way contained only about 5 per cent. of water. But as the quantity of water in fresh fish is not much less than 80 per cent., it is obvious that it would take from four to five tons of fresh fish to produce one ton of the manure in the condition of dryness as stated. If, therefore, we take the most favorable estimate which the statements at present made seem to justify, namely, that one ton of fish, or its

offal, could be delivered on shore for 30s., it would then appear that from £6 to £7 must be paid for the raw material only, at the place of landing, of one ton of manure; to which must be added the cost of sulphuric acid, of the drying, of labor of boys, transports, &c. For these reasons, I think it will be very difficult to produce a manure of the kind in question which can be sold to the farmer at much less than the present price of Peruvian guano. It would seem, indeed, from calculation, that unless offal fish and fish offal could be obtained at an almost nominal price, it would at present be almost impossible to establish a manufacture which could so compete with the manures now in the market as to hold out a prospect of success both to the producer and the consumer. And how far also a decline in the present supplies of natural guanos, as well as a much reduced estimate of the cost of the fresh fish and offal might affect the result, is of course a further question.

At the conclusion of the reading of the papers, Mr. Horace Green said that though the paper of Mr. Lawes was very valuable, it must not be forgotten that that gentleman was himself a large manufacturer of guano. The guano now brought before them did not contain so much of phosphate as of ammonical properties, which were best for the staff of man's life—wheat; while the guano of Mr. Lawes was best for turnips and green crops—the food of beasts.

Mr. Mechi came from rather a fish country—Essex—where it had long been the practice to manure the land with fish, and it was the conviction of the farmers in that district that within a certain distance of the coast—say eight or ten miles—the sale of fish would successfully compete with guano. There could be no doubt that fish manure was good for root crops. The starfish, or five-fingers, fetched 6d. a bushel, and sprats 8d., excepting in very cold weather, when the latter article rose in price, in consequence of the quantities sent up to the London market. That might, however, be considered the average price, which would give them 1s. 6d. per cwt., or 30s. a ton. Large vessels were employed at Holbury and other places to catch fish for agricultural purposes. Mussels were also extensively used in their shells, their cost being about 20s. per ton. The guano at 30s. per ton would no doubt be valuable; but how far its being dried and cured, so as to obtain the oil, would enable it to be sold at that price, of course he could not give an opinion. If they could fix the ammonia by the use of sulphuric acid, it would of course add to the value of the manure.

Professor John Wilson, during the reading of the first paper, noticed two or three inaccuracies, which he would have corrected but for the paper of Mr. Lawes just read, with which he fully agreed in every particular.

Mr. J. C. Nesbit wished to notice one or two points in the first paper read. In referring to the supply of guano, he might observe there had been an increasing sale each year, though the papers of the House of Commons did not enable them to decide on the exact quantities imported. He believed the reason why there was nearly a deficiency last year arose from the desertion of the sailors from the vessels in Australia which were under engagements to call for the guano on their voyage home. He had always looked upon fish manure as of great importance, and some years ago he tried some experiments, by which he found he could obtain a large quantity of oil and valuable manure from fish. He recommended it to Mr. Fisher Hobbs and other well-known agriculturists, and told them the supply of guano would not last more than a few years, whilst there was plenty of fish round their own shores. Mr. Lawes' objection to the use of the fish guano appeared to be that it would not digest chemically, and that, when dried, it would not act so well on the ground. Now, there had been large importations of late of a peculiar manure from South America; it was the dried flesh of animals killed at Buenos Ayres, principally for their hides. This flesh manure, though highly dried, was found to act well for wheat,

and he had no doubt that dried fish would also act and give forth the ammoniacal and other properties required for the food of plants. He thought that if the fish guano could be obtained at a reasonable price, it would be productive of great results. Of the dried flesh, only about nine per cent. was ammonia; but it had been proved to be very good for wheat. Thousands of tons of it had been used; but the supply had been interrupted, owing to the disturbances in Buenos Ayers.

Mr. Dugald Campbell said, on looking over the specification of Mr. Pettitt's patent to ascertain its objects, he found that one part of it provided for the decomposition of animals as well as fish—a matter highly important in a commercial and chemical point of view. Some years ago, Mr. Turnbull, of Glasgow, the proprietor of Turnbull's blue, produced in his manufactory a large quantity of muriatic acid, which he did not know what to do with. He accordingly took to buying up dead horses, and boiling them in the acid to a pulp, which was then converted into dry flesh manure, for which it was sold. He had seen specimens of it, and found it contained a large proportion of muriate and sulphate of ammonia.

Mr. Mechi might observe that Mr. Hudson, of Castleacre, having a few years since lost a large quantity of sheep, which he had imported, by small-pox, he had them decomposed into manure for turnips, and met with great success.

Mr. James Caird did not wish to enter into the merits of the fish manure, but would address himself to the practical part of the question, viz., could a sufficient quantity of fish be obtained at a price to make the manufacture of the guano profitable? Mr. Lawes said that fish contained 80 per cent. of water, and only about 5 per cent. of guano, and 15 per cent. of other products. Mr. Green, on the contrary, said it only contained 40 per cent. of water. If Mr. Lawes was right, the expenses would be at once doubled.

Mr. Pettitt might observe, in answer to Mr. Lawes' statement, that the fish only gave 20 per cent. of solid product; that he held a specimen in his hand in which there was 16.80 per cent. of bone or phosphate of lime. He believed that on an average he should get 30 tons of oil and manure to the 100, and five tons of phosphate of lime. Supposing, however, that a ton of guano could be produced from four tons of fish, that would give them £9 per ton, at a cost of £4 for the raw material, as all kinds of fish, including turbot, cod, &c., could be obtained on the Yorkshire coast at £1 a ton.

Mr. Mechi said 100 tons at 30s. would amount to £150, and if it produced 30 tons of guano, that would give £270; and the question was, would that remunerate the manufacturer?

Mr. Caird thought that the raw material could not be obtained at £1 per ton; and if there was a larger demand than at present, it would enhance the price.

Mr. Bird agreed with Mr. Caird with regard to the supply. He did not think it would pay, as a commercial operation, to erect large machinery and trust to a doubtful supply from the neighborhood to keep it at work.

Mr. Pettitt stated that of course he should not erect large machinery except at places where he expected a large supply. As regarded the question of supply, if the present fisheries were carried on at a profit, solely for the taking of select eatable fish, (and it might safely be assumed that there was a profit, or they would be discontinued,) how much more successful must this scheme be, combining the profits of the present system with the large profits of the proposed guano manufacture, from animal matter of all kinds, drawn without extra labor from the teeming waters!

Mr. Nesbit understood that four-fifths of the fish caught was returned to the sea as useless, and the question was whether this could not be bought up. It was to the refuse fish, now thrown away, that the great supply must be looked for.

Mr. Caird considered the whole of Mr. Pettitt's calculation to be based on the cost of refuse fish.

Mr. Green denied that it was so; it was based on the calculation of fishing or contracting for fish of all kinds, and they might perhaps send the best to market themselves.

The Chairman said, that by the rules of their society, and very properly, no decision was ever come to on the value of the papers laid before them. There can be no doubt that the subject of utilising refuse materials of all kinds, and the more especially of fish, as it would not only produce them good manure, but add to the food of the people, was one of the greatest importance. Large quantities of fish were now thrown away which might be converted into manure, and the practical question was whether it would commercially pay. He then proposed votes of thanks to Mr. Green and Mr. Lawes for their valuable papers, which were carried unanimously.

THE CONCORD GRAPE.

LONG ago impressed with the opinion that our native grape was capable of being greatly ameliorated and improved, through the seeds, Mr. E. W. Bull turned his attention to their production, and now has growing more than 2000 seedling plants, from some of which he hopes even to beat himself. It will take a long time to prove them all, but the result cannot be otherwise than important; for the natural habit of the vine once changed or broken, variation takes place in such a manner that no opinion can be formed of the product. His success in raising the Concord Grape is the best proof of this.

Mr. Bull has given a brief history of this new variety, and it will be noticed that he calls it a seedling from our native grape of the second generation. It is this; some years ago he found a chance seedling growing upon his grounds near a wall; as there are no wild grapes in the near vicinity of his place he removed it to his garden, where he watched it with some care, and gave it good cultivation. In a year or two it produced a few bunches of fruit, ripening as early as the last part of August, and remarkably sweet and free from the foxy flavor of the wild type. The idea at once occurred to him that another generation would be a still greater improvement, and a parcel of seeds was saved for planting. His anticipations have been fully realized; the Concord Grape was the produce of these seeds. We annex Mr. Bull's account of the origin of his vine.

CONCORD, Mass., January, 1854.

"I send you the history of the Concord Grape, which you desired for your excellent Magazine. I have by no means said all that can be said for it, my desire being to have it come fully up to the expectations of those who may cultivate it, which I have no doubt it will.

"I believe I have before stated to you that my vine is growing on a poor sandy loam, overlying gravel, which has not been trenched and but slightly manured; add to this, the late spring and early autumn frosts, which we are liable to in this deep valley of Concord, and the summer droughts which are very severe with me, and I think you will conclude with me that it will be likely to keep up to its character under almost any circumstances.

"And here let me say that I have cultivated the Isabella, and many other kinds of grape, for fifteen years without being able to ripen them in open culture, and it was this constant failure which led me, about ten years since, to raise seedlings from our native grapes, in the hope that I should obtain a hardy grape that would give me a sure supply for my table. In this I have succeeded beyond my expectations.

"The Concord Grape is a seedling, in the second generation, of our native grape, and fruited for the first time four years since, being at that time the only seedling I had raised which

showed a decided improvement on the wild type.

"Notwithstanding its unfavorable position, it has proved a great grower and bearer, and very constant to its quality and season. The seedling from which the Concord was raised grew near to a Catawba, and, it is quite possible, was impregnated by it, it having the flavor of that variety. The parent vine was a good and sweet grape, large, black, and ripe the 20th of August.

"The Concord Grape, as I said before, is a strong grower; the wood strong, the foliage large, thick, strongly nerved, with a woolly under-surface, and has never mildewed nor rusted under any vicissitudes of weather.

"The grape is large, frequently an inch in diameter, and the bunches handsome, shouldered, and sometimes weigh a pound. In color it is a ruddy black, covered with a dense blue bloom, the skin very thin, the juice abundant, with a sweet aromatic flavor, and it has very little pulp.

"It ripens the 10th of September. The first ripe bunch of the season was exhibited at the Massachusetts Horticultural Society's Room, on the 3d of September, 1853. The vine was neither pruned nor pinched, nor had application of any of the horticultural arts, whereby precocity and size are attained, my object being to ascertain what would be the constant habit of the vine. I suppose that its quality would be much improved in a more favorable climate, and that its superiority to the Isabella would be as apparent under such circumstances as it is here.

"The great want of the country in this latitude is a good table and wine grape, which shall also be early, hardy, and prolific. The Concord Grape fulfils these conditions, and I feel a sincere pleasure in offering it to my countrymen."

E. W. BULL.

We have said nothing about its qualities as a wine grape. Mr. Bull, however, exhibited some specimens of the wine made from his grape,

which were tasted by the committee, and pronounced by them to be of a very excellent quality. It was his first attempt at wine-making, and of course not likely to be made with much skill. It has been much praised by several who have tasted it, and some of the persons good judges. It has a good body, with an agreeable, fruity perfume, and is particularly grateful to the sick, which Mr. Bull considers the best test it could have. It did not have the slightest addition of spirits, but was the pure juice of the grape.

We close our account of the Concord Grape with a more full description.

Bunch, large, long, neither compact nor loose, handsomely shouldered; *Berries*, roundish, large, three-quarters of an inch in diameter, sometimes measuring an inch; *Skin*, thin, very dark, covered with a thick blue bloom; *Flesh*, very juicy, nearly or quite free from pulp; *Flavor*, rich, saccharine, and sprightly, with much of the delicious aroma of the Catawba; *Vine*, very vigorous, making strong wood; *Leaves*, very large, thick, strongly nerved, not much lobed, and woolly beneath.—*Hovey's Magazine*.

HOT-BEDS.

EVERY one should have a hot-bed, if it were only to forward a few plants for the garden. The too prevalent opinion is, that they are expensive and difficult to manage, requiring the skill of the professional gardener. Both suppositions are entirely erroneous. A hot-bed may be constructed by any man of ordinary ingenuity. A frame of about twelve feet long and 6 wide, which will allow of 4 sashes, each 3 feet wide, will be found large enough for any family. It should be made of common two-inch plank—the back about three feet, high, the front about half that, the ends having a regular slope from back to front. This will give an angle sufficient to throw off rain, and give the full benefit of external heat and light to the

plants within. * If the beds are narrower, the front must be higher in proportion. The sides and ends are simply nailed to a strong post, four inches square, placed in each corner. For the sash to rest and slide upon, a strip six inches wide is placed upon the frame, the ends morticed or sunk in the sides of the frame, so as not to cause a projection. The sashes are made in the ordinary way, but without cross-bars; and in glazing, the lights are made to overlap an eighth or quarter of an inch, to exclude rain. Such a frame, costing but a mere trifle beyond the labor, will last for years, and furnish all the Cabbage, Tomato, Celery, Cauliflower, Pepper, Melon, and Cucumber plants needed, with a sprinkling of early Radishes, &c. Where so large a frame may not be wanted, an old window may be used for sash, and all expense of glazing avoided.

Hot-beds should occupy a dry situation, where they will not be affected by the lodgment of water during rains or thaws. They should be exposed to the east and south, and be protected by fences or buildings from the north and north-west.

Where it is intended to merely grow plants for transplanting to the garden, they may be sunk in the ground to the depth of eighteen inches, and in such a case require not more than two feet of manure; but when forcing and perfecting vegetables is designed, a permanent heat must be kept up, and the bed must be made on the surface, so that fresh and warm manure may be added when necessary. A depth of three to four feet of manure will in such cases be wanted.

Manure for hot-beds requires some preparation. It should be fresh stable manure, placed in a heap, and turned and mixed several times, promoting a regular fermentation. It is thus made to retain its heat a long time; otherwise it would burn and dry up, and become useless.

The mold should be laid on as soon as the bed is settled, and has a lively regular-tempered heat. Lay the earth evenly over the dung about six inches deep. Radishes and Lettuce require about a foot of earth. After it has lain a few days it will be fit to receive the seed, unless the mold has turned to a whitish color, or has a rank smell, in which case add some fresh earth for the hills, at the same time holes should be made by running down stakes, to give the steam an opportunity to escape.—*Horticulturist*.

FRUITS IN OREGON.—Fruit growing is attracting a lively interest throughout Oregon. The farmers are generally planting out large orchards of the choicest kinds of fruit. We have most of the leading varieties cultivated in the Northern States. In the summer of 1847 Messrs. LEWELLEN & MEEK, from Iowa, brought across the plains most of the leading varieties of fruits cultivated in the West, and now have a large nursery and orchard of bearing trees at Milwaukie, eight mile below this place. Some of their Pears sold at a dollar each; Apples at twenty-five cents, and some, I believe fifty cents. I brought from New-York in the fall of 1850 some twenty-three hundred fruit trees, embracing most of the leading varieties cultivated there. These were, I believe, the first trees ever brought to this coast by the Isthmus that lived. Fruit trees make an astonishing growth here, and bear early, and the fairest fruit that I ever beheld. Some fifteen different kinds have borne fruit this year, on small trees only one year from the bud.

Our climate seems peculiarly favorable to the growth of trees. I have not seen ice thicker than window glass this year. We have had only three hard frosts; just enough to stop the growth of trees. All kinds of hardy grass is yet growing finely, so that the loose stock are fat without being fed.—J. W. L., in *Hort.*—*Oregon City, Dec. 10.*

CONVERSATION enriches the understanding, but solitude is the school of genius.—*Gibbon.*

Miscellaneous.

For the American Agriculturist.

A HORSE FOUND.

THE following *jeux d'esprit* was handed us by a young friend just out of school. It was written *impromptu*, on reading the Deutsche Advertisement in rhyme of "A Horse Lost," which appeared in No. 18, page 278, of the *Agriculturist*:

I FOUND a horse that is not lame,
The horse you lost must be the same;
His ears are short, his tail is too,
He has no teeth with which to chew.
This poor old beast don't look so shy;
The horse I found has *not* one eye;
He stoops before, he slants behind,
And has a rope around him twined;
His joints are almost out of use,
And this all comes of great abuse.
He has no oats, and can't eat hay;
We feed him slops three times a day.
His limbs are long and lanky too,
And every foot has lost a shoe.
His nose is Roman, as you know;
This article he never blows!
His gait is balky, and his trot
Upon the road, I tell you what
He makes the dust fly here and there,
And all the people stand and stare!

Now this old horse—don't be surprised—
Must be the horse you advertised.
You'll find the beast where'er you call
At Catharine Market, under the stall.
The owner will have a few items to pay;
And now in conclusion I would merely say,
Plank down your money and take him away.

THE LORD'S PRAYER.—A CURIOUS POEM.

THE following is a curious piece of poetry. The initial letters spell, "My boast is in the glorious, cross of Christ." Read the words in small capitals downwards with those on the left and upwards with those on the right, and you have the Lord's Prayer:

Make known thy Gospel truths, our heavenly King;
Yield us thy grace, dear FATHER, from above;
Bless us with heart WHICH feelingly can sing
Our life thou ART for EVER, God of love.
Assuage our griefs in love FOR Christ, we pray,
Since the bright Prince of HEAVEN and GLORY died,
Took all our shame and HALLOWED THE display,
In first BE ing man, AND then being crucified.
Stupendous God! THY grace and POWER make known,
In Jesus' NAME let all THE world rejoice;
New labors in THY heavenly KINGDOM own,
That blessed KINGDOM, for thy saints THE choice.
How vile to COME to thee, is all our cry,
Enemies to THY self and all that's THINE;
Graceless our WILL, our lives FOR vanity
Loathing thy truths BE ing EVIL in design.
O God, thy will be DONE FROM earth to heaven:
Reclining on thy Gospel let us live;
In EARTH from sins DELIVER ed and forgiven,
Oh, as thyself, BUT teach us to forgive,
Unless IT'S power TEMPTATION doth destroy,
Sure is our fall INTO the depths of woe;
Carnal in mind, we've not a glimpse of joy;
Raised against HEAVEN in us no hope can flow;
O GIVE us grace and LEAD us on the way;
Shine on us with thy love and give us peace;
Self and this sin which rise AGAINST us slay;
Oh! grant each DAY our TRESPASS es may cease.
Forgive our evil deeds THAT oft we do,
Convince us DAILY of THEM to our shame;

Help us with heavenly BREAD; FORGIVE us to
Recurrent lusts; AND WE adore thy name,
In thy FORGIVE NESS WE AS saints can die,
Since, for us and our TRESPASSES so high,
Thy Son, our Saviour bled on Calvary.

REMINISCENCES OF A FARMER'S DAUGHTER.

BY MINNIE MYRTLE.

"ANY thing but being a farmer, any thing but being a farmer's wife, any thing but being a farmer's son or a farmer's daughter." How many times I have heard this as I have journeyed "to and fro in the land," from the lips of those whose fathers, or husbands, or brothers belonged to what they term the "genteel professions." And why? Why is it that they look upon the life of an agriculturist as so undesirable, so repulsive, and oftentimes as so degrading. One says, "Farmers are so coarse and rude—so destitute of refinement." Another, that "they are so uneducated, so wanting in intelligence and cultivation." And still another, that they live so "outlandishly," and pay so little attention to the courtesies, or even the decencies of life."

Now there are hundreds and thousands who will be filled with indignation that such things should be said of a class in which, all who know them well, will confess that there may be found as much true refinement and as many noble characteristics as in any other, in city or country, in our own or in any other nation on the globe.

In the countries of Europe, the land-holders were, and are still, the "gentry," and I have often wondered how it came to pass that their descendants on this side of the great water, should have become so changed in their estimate of what was manly and noble in a profession or employment.

In my childhood there lived in "our neighborhood" an English lady, whom misfortune had reduced to poverty and self-dependence; and very well do I remember the contempt with which she looked upon mechanics and all who earned their livelihood by any handicraft, while a farmer, though cultivating but a little patch of land, was in her eyes one of the nobility—a lord. That he was not in some respects so polished as men of other professions, did not seem at all to affect her opinion of his respectability; "he is a land-holder," she would say, and in her eyes land-holders were "peers of the realm."

Perhaps this may be given as one of the proofs of the influence of early impressions. I was a farmer's daughter, but (now I blush to confess it) it is true that I often wished I were not, for I was often taunted with it by the lawyer's daughter, and the merchant's daughter, and the tailor's daughter too. I wore linsey-woolsey frocks which were spun in the little attic, and woven there, too; and my aprons were "home-made" blue and white checks; and my stockings I knit myself. I had a little round dumpy form too, and my cheeks were red—redder than roses, and my shoes were—yes, to make a full confession, they were calf-skin, and laced up with "strings of the same." My cloak was genuine woolen—how well I remember thinking, the first time I put it on, that it was pretty, prettier than most of the girls wore. It was plaided red and black, lined with red flannel—how very warm it was! But the lawyer's

daughter was a slender, pale-looking girl, and wore calico frocks, and calico aprons, and morocco shoes; and she laughed at me because all my things were "home-made." I did not know then what I do now, that they cost five times as much as hers, and the only reason she did not have some like them was, that her father could not afford it.

"I wish my father were not a farmer," said I one day to the English lady who was fitting a red woolen frock to my little Dutch figure. "Why?" said she. "Oh, then I should not have to wear these homely dresses; and if he were only a merchant, we could have a great deal prettier things." Never shall I forget the lecture I received for such a foolish wish, and for such foolish notions, which she wondered should have found entrance into my little head. Ever after she took particular pains to give me right views upon the dignity of *land-owners*; and though I now think she unjustly disparaged those of other professions, all of which are honorable if rightly pursued, I wish her English views of farming and farmers were more extensively American, and rejoice that they are becoming so.

It is said, and with much truth I am obliged to confess, that there is not among farmers so high an appreciation of the beautiful as there should be; and there is not sufficient attention paid to the adorning of the mind and polishing of the manners; and this is also true of many other classes. I have never yet found any that have arrived at perfection; and had much rather have a warm heart and pure mind in a rough casket, than a corrupt mind and a false heart in an elegant shrine.

But I believe it quite possible—for I have seen it in more instances than I could number—that those who devote themselves to agricultural and rural pursuits may be as highly educated and refined and cultivated as those who write "briefs" and measure lace, and if they cannot and do not excel, in these points, many of those who meet to attend to the interests of the nation or represent us in the courts of foreign princes, well may we blush for their degeneracy.

There are many people in whose minds refinement and a polished exterior are indissolubly connected. It is true that where the feelings are refined the manners will be sufficiently so; but both may exist in one who is utterly destitute of what is termed polish! Yet it is also true that polish is desirable, and none too assiduously cultivated by any class of people. Still I think I can prove that it is not alone neglected by those who cultivate the soil.

CHILDREN IN 1854.

I WENT with a friend the other day, to look at some "rooms to let." She liked the rooms, and the man who owned them liked she should have them; but when she mentioned she had children—he stepped six paces off—set his teeth together—pulled his waistcoat down with a jerk and said—"Never—take—Children—Ma'am!"

Now I'd like to know if that man was *born* grown up?

I'd like to know if children are to have their necks wrung like so many chickens, if they happen to "*peep*?"

I'd like to know if they haven't just as much right in the world as grown folks?

I'd like to know if boarding-house keepers, (after children have been in a close school-room

for five or six hours feeding on verbs and pronouns,) are to put them off with a "second table," leaving them to stand in the entries, smelling the dinner, while grown people, (who have lunched at oyster-shops and confectioner's saloons) sit two or three hours longer than is necessary, at dessert, cracking their nuts and their jokes?

I'd like to know if they have a quarter given them to spend, they must always receive a bad shilling of it at the stores as "change?"

I'd like to know if people in omnibuses are at liberty to catch them by the coat collar, lift them out of a nice seat, take it themselves, and perch them on their sharp knee-joints, to jolt over the pavements?

I have a mind to pick up all the children and form a colony on some bright island, where those people who were made up in a hurry, without hearts, couldn't find us, or if they did, we would say to them when they tried to come ashore—*Never take grown-up folks here!* Or we'd treat them to a "second dinner,"—bill of fare—cold potatoes, bad cooking butter, bread full of saleratus, bones without any meat on them, watery soups, and curdled milk—(that is to say, after we had picked our nuts long enough to suit us at dessert!) How do you suppose they'd like to change places with the "children" that way?

Now here's Aunt Fanny's creed, and you may read it to your mother if you like.

I believe in great round apples and big slices of gingerbread for children.

I believe in making their clothes loose enough to enable them to eat it all, and jump around in when they are through.

I believe in not giving away their little property, such as dolls, kites, balls, hoops, and the like, without their leave.

I believe in not promising them a ride, and then forgetting all about it.

I believe in not teasing them for amusement, and then punishing them for being "troublesome."

I believe in not allowing Bridget and Betty to box their ears because the pot boils over, or because their beaux didn't come the evening before.

I believe in sending them to school where there are backs to the benches, and where the school ma'am has had at least one offer.

I believe no house can be properly furnished without at least a *dozen* children in it.

I believe little children to be all that is left us of Paradise; and I believe that any house-keeper harboring any person who "don't like them," had better count up her silver without loss of time.—*Little Ferns for Fanny's little friends.*

ANECDOTES OF FRA ROCCO.—Murray's Handbook for South Italy contains some curious stories respecting Fra Rocco, the celebrated Dominican preacher, and the spiritual Joe Miller of Naples. On one occasion, it is related, he preached on the mole a penitential sermon, and introduced so many illustrations of terror that he soon brought his hearers to their knees. While they were thus showing every sign of contrition, he cried out, "Now all of you who sincerely repent of your sins, hold up your hands." Every man in the vast multitude immediately stretched out both his hands. "Holy Archangel Michael!" exclaimed Rocco, "thou who with thine adamant sword standest at the right of the judgment-seat of God, hew me off every hand which has been raised hypocritically." In an instant every hand dropped, and Rocco, of course, poured forth a fresh torrent of eloquent invective against their sins and their deceit.

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them out. At length he proclaimed that a bull fight was to be held outside the gate of Paradise. Thereupon every Spanish saint, without exception, ran off to see the fight, and St. Peter immediately closed the gate, and took care never to admit another Spaniard.

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She engaged a watchman for a stipulated reward, to carry Philander to the watch-house while yet in a state of insensibility, and to frighten him a little when he recovered. In consequence of this arrangement, Philander waked up about eleven o'clock at night, and found himself lying on a pine bench in a strange and dim apartment. Raising himself upon his elbow, he looked around until his eyes rested on a man seated by a stove smoking a cigar.

"Where am I?" said Philander.

"In a medical college," said the cigar smoker.

"What a doing there?"

"Going to be cut up!"

"How comes that?"

"Why you died yesterday, while you were drunk, and we bought your body to make a 'nat-omy.'"

"It's a lie—I'm not dead."

"No matter—we bought your carcass from your wife, who had a right to sell it, for it's all the good she could make of you. If you're not dead, that's no fault of the doctors and they'll cut you up, dead or alive."

"You will do it, eh?" asked the old sot.

"Ay, to be sure we will, now directly," was the resolute answer.

"Well, can't you let us have something to drink before you begin?"

This last speech satisfied the watchman that Philander was a hopeless case; and, as his reward was contingent on his successful treatment of the patient, he was not a little chagrined at the result; so, with no gentle handling, he tumbled the irreformable inebriate out of the watch-house.

GREAT BRAVERY.—"Well, Pat, my good fellow," said a victorious general to a brave son of Erin, after a battle, "and what did you do to help us gain this victory?" "Do!" replied Pat, "may it please yer honor, I walked up boldly to wun of the inimy, and cut off his fut." "Cut off his foot! and why did you not cut off his head!" asked the general. "Ah, an' faith, that was off already," says Pat.

VERY TRUE.—Lacon says, "There are two modes of establishing our reputation; to be praised by honest men, and to be abused by rogues! It is best, however," he says, "to secure the former, because it will unavoidably be accompanied by the latter. His calumny is not only the greatest benefit a rogue can confer upon us, but it is also, the only service he will perform for nothing."

ROOM ENOUGH.—A friend once visiting an unworldly philosopher, whose mind was his kingdom, expressed his surprise at the smallness of his apartment: "Why, you have not room here to swing a cat!" "My friend," was the serene, unappreciative answer, "I do not want to swing a cat."

AN orator holding forth in favor of woman—dear, divine woman—concludes thus:

"Oh, my hearers, depend upon it, nothing beats a good wife!"

"I beg your pardon," replied one of the audience, "a bad husband does."

Maids want but husbands, and then want every thing.

plants within. * If the beds are narrower, the front must be higher in proportion. The sides and ends are simply nailed to a strong post, four inches square, placed in each corner. For the sash to rest and slide upon, a strip six inches wide is placed upon the frame, the ends morticed or sunk in the sides of the frame, so as not to cause a projection. The sashes are made in the ordinary way, but without cross-bars; and in glazing, the lights are made to overlap an eighth or quarter of an inch, to exclude rain. Such a frame, costing but a mere trifle beyond the labor, will last for years, and furnish all the Cabbage, Tomato, Celery, Cauliflower, Pepper, Melon, and Cucumber plants needed, with a sprinkling of early Radishes, &c. Where so large a frame may not be wanted, an old window may be used for sash, and all expense of glazing avoided.

Hot-beds should occupy a dry situation, where they will not be affected by the lodgment of water during rains or thaws. They should be exposed to the east and south, and be protected by fences or buildings from the north and north-west.

Where it is intended to merely grow plants for transplanting to the garden, they may be sunk in the ground to the depth of eighteen inches, and in such a case require not more than two feet of manure; but when forcing and perfecting vegetables is designed, a permanent heat must be kept up, and the bed must be made on the surface, so that fresh and warm manure may be added when necessary. A depth of three to four feet of manure will in such cases be wanted.

Manure for hot-beds requires some preparation. It should be fresh stable manure, placed in a heap, and turned and mixed several times, promoting a regular fermentation. It is thus made to retain its heat a long time; otherwise it would burn and dry up, and become useless.

The mold should be laid on as soon as the bed is settled, and has a lively regular-tempered heat. Lay the earth evenly over the dung about six inches deep. Radishes and Lettuce require about a foot of earth. After it has lain a few days it will be fit to receive the seed, unless the mold has turned to a whitish color, or has a rank smell, in which case add some fresh earth for the hills, at the same time holes should be made by running down stakes, to give the steam an opportunity to escape.—*Horticulturist*.

FRUITS IN OREGON.—Fruit growing is attracting a lively interest throughout Oregon. The farmers are generally planting out large orchards of the choicest kinds of fruit. We have most of the leading varieties cultivated in the Northern States. In the summer of 1847 Messrs. LEWELLEN & MEEK, from Iowa, brought across the plains most of the leading varieties of fruits cultivated in the West, and now have a large nursery and orchard of bearing trees at Milwaukie, eight mile below this place. Some of their Pears sold at a dollar each; Apples at twenty-five cents, and some, I believe fifty cents. I brought from New-York in the fall of 1850 some twenty-three hundred fruit trees, embracing most of the leading varieties cultivated there. These were, I believe, the first trees ever brought to this coast by the Isthmus that lived. Fruit trees make an astonishing growth here, and bear early, and the fairest fruit that I ever beheld. Some fifteen different kinds have borne fruit this year, on small trees only one year from the bud.

Our climate seems peculiarly favorable to the growth of trees. I have not seen ice thicker than window glass this year. We have had only three hard frosts; just enough to stop the growth of trees. All kinds of hardy grass is yet growing finely, so that the loose stock are fat without being fed.—J. W. L., in *Hort.*

Oregon City, Dec. 10.

CONVERSATION enriches the understanding, but solitude is the school of genius.—*Gibbon*.

Miscellaneous.

For the American Agriculturist.

A HORSE FOUND.

THE following *jeux d'esprit* was handed us by a young friend just out of school. It was written *impromptu*, on reading the *Deutsche Advertiser* in rhyme of "A Horse Lost," which appeared in No. 18, page 278, of the *Agriculturist*:

I FOUND a horse that is not lame,
The horse you lost must be the same;
His ears are short, his tail is too,
He has no teeth with which to chew.
This poor old beast don't look so shy;
The horse I found has *not* one eye;
He stoops before, he slants behind,
And has a rope around him twined;
His joints are almost out of use,
And this all comes of great abuse.
He has no oats, and can't eat hay;
We feed him slops three times a day.
His limbs are long and lanky too,
And every foot has lost a shoe.
His nose is Roman, as you knows;
This article he never blows!
His gait is balky, and his trot
Upon the road, I tell you what
He makes the dust fly here and there,
And all the people stand and stare!

Now this old horse—don't be surprised—
Must be the horse you advertised.
You'll find the beast whene'er you call
At Catharine Market, under the stall.
The owner will have a few items to pay;
And now in conclusion I would merely say,
Plank down your money and take him away.

THE LORD'S PRAYER.—A CURIOUS POEM.

THE following is a curious piece of poetry. The initial letters spell, "My boast is in the glorious, cross of Christ." Read the words in small capitals downwards with those on the left and upwards with those on the right, and you have the Lord's Prayer:

Make known thy Gospel truths, our heavenly King;
Yield us thy grace, dear FATHER, from above;
Bless us with heart which feelingly can sing
Our life thou ART for EVER, God of love.
Assuage our griefs in love FOR Christ, we pray,
Since the bright Prince of HEAVEN and GLORY died,
Took all our shame and HALLOWED THE display,
In first BE ing man, and then being crucified.
Stupendous God! thy grace and POWER make known,
In Jesus' NAME let all the world rejoice;
New labors in thy heavenly KINGDOM own,
That blessed KINGDOM, for thy saints THE choice.
How vile to COME to thee, is all our cry,
Enemies to thy self and all that's THINE;
Graceless our WILL, our lives FOR vanity
Loathing thy truths BE ing EVIL in design.
O God, thy will be DONE FROM earth to heaven:
Reclining on thy Gospel let us live;
In EARTH from sins DELIVER ed and forgiven,
Oh, as thyself, BUT teach us to forgive,
Unless it's power TEMPTATION doth destroy,
Sure is our fall INTO the depths of woe;
Carnal in mind, we've NOT a glimpse of joy;
Raised against HEAVEN in us no hope can flow;
O GIVE us grace and LEAD us on the way;
Shine on us with thy love and give us peace;
Self and THIS sin which rise AGAINST us slay;
Oh! grant each DAY OUR TRESPASSES may cease.
Forgive OUR evil deeds THAT oft we do,
Convince us DAILY of THEM to OUR shame;

Help us with heavenly BREAD; FORGIVE us to
Recurrent lusts; AND WE adore thy name,
In thy FORGIVENESS WE AS saints can die,
Since, for us and OUR TRESPASSES so high,
Thy Son, our Saviour bled on Calvary.

REMINISCENCES OF A FARMER'S DAUGHTER.

BY MINNIE MYRTLE.

"ANY thing but being a farmer, any thing but being a farmer's wife, any thing but being a farmer's son or a farmer's daughter." How many times I have heard this as I have journeyed "to and fro in the land," from the lips of those whose fathers, or husbands, or brothers belonged to what they term the "genteel professions." And why? Why is it that they look upon the life of an agriculturist as so undesirable, so repulsive, and oftentimes as so degrading. One says, "Farmers are so coarse and rude—so destitute of refinement." Another, that "they are so uneducated, so wanting in intelligence and cultivation." And still another, that they live so "outlandishly," and pay so little attention to the courtesies, or even the decencies of life."

Now there are hundreds and thousands who will be filled with indignation that such things should be said of a class in which, all who know them well, will confess that there may be found as much true refinement and as many noble characteristics as in any other, in city or country, in our own or in any other nation on the globe.

In the countries of Europe, the land-holders were, and are still, the "gentry;" and I have often wondered how it came to pass that their descendants on this side of the great water, should have become so changed in their estimate of what was manly and noble in a profession or employment.

In my childhood there lived in "our neighborhood" an English lady, whom misfortune had reduced to poverty and self-dependence; and very well do I remember the contempt with which she looked upon mechanics and all who earned their livelihood by any handicraft, while a farmer, though cultivating but a little patch of land, was in her eyes one of the nobility—a lord. That he was not in some respects so polished as men of other professions, did not seem at all to affect her opinion of his respectability; "he is a land-holder," she would say, and in her eyes land-holders were "peers of the realm."

Perhaps this may be given as one of the proofs of the influence of early impressions. I was a farmer's daughter, but (now I blush to confess it) it is true that I often wished I were not, for I was often taunted with it by the lawyer's daughter, and the merchant's daughter, and the tailor's daughter too. I wore linsey-woolsey frocks which were spun in the little attic, and woven there, too; and my aprons were "home-made" blue and white checks; and my stockings I knit myself. I had a little round dumpy form too, and my cheeks were red—redder than roses, and my shoes were—yes, to make a full confession, they were calf-skin, and laced up with "strings of the same." My cloak was genuine woollen—how well I remember thinking, the first time I put it on, that it was pretty, prettier than most of the girls wore. It was plaided red and black, lined with red flannel—how very warm it was! But the lawyer's

daughter was a slender, pale-looking girl, and wore calico frocks, and calico aprons, and morocco shoes; and she laughed at me because all my things were "home-made." I did not know then what I do now, that they cost five times as much as hers, and the only reason she did not have some like them was, that her father could not afford it.

"I wish my father were not a farmer," said I one day to the English lady who was fitting a red woolen frock to my little Dutch figure. "Why?" said she. "Oh, then I should not have to wear these homely dresses; and if he were only a merchant, we could have a great deal prettier things." Never shall I forget the lecture I received for such a foolish wish, and for such foolish notions, which she wondered should have found entrance into my little head. Ever after she took particular pains to give me right views upon the dignity of *land-owners*; and though I now think she unjustly disparaged those of other professions, all of which are honorable if rightly pursued, I wish her English views of farming and farmers were more extensively American, and rejoice that they are becoming so.

It is said, and with much truth I am obliged to confess, that there is not among farmers so high an appreciation of the beautiful as there should be; and there is not sufficient attention paid to the adorning of the mind and polishing of the manners; and this is also true of many other classes. I have never yet found any that have arrived at perfection; and had much rather have a warm heart and pure mind in a rough casket, than a corrupt mind and a false heart in an elegant shrine.

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"Where am I?" said Philander.

"In a medical college," said the cigar smoker.

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"How comes that?"

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American Agriculturist.

New-York, Wednesday, February 22, 1854.

NEW-YORK HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY.

THIS Society held an adjourned meeting on the evening of the 13th instant, and concluded to give up the project of a Spring Exhibition. We are sorry they came to this decision, and hope it may yet be changed. The public mind has little to occupy it at this season, and is therefore more ready to patronize any chance exhibition of this kind. There is also a stronger yearning for rural sights than at a later season. Next autumn we shall have the State Agricultural Society Show here which will monopolize the public interest; and between this, the American Institute, and other exhibitions, and the satiety of fruits and flowers felt by those who have spent the summer in the country, the Horticultural Society will have a poor chance of success. If the Society is not able to get up a good exhibition for want of present funds, we would respectfully suggest advising with Mr. BARNUM on the subject. As President of the Fairfield County Agricultural Society, he has made its exhibitions very successful for several years past. Perhaps he might be able to give some hints on Horticultural exhibitions which would prove highly advantageous to the Society.

While on this subject, we will respond to the complaint made at a recent meeting of this Society against the press, viz., that the weekly meetings had not been reported to the public as they should have been. This complaint could not have been aimed at us, for we have given reports at much greater length than any other paper; but we confess we have sometimes grudged the space because the subjects discussed have not been of a sufficiently practical character to interest the general reader. Roses, Camellias, and Azaleas have formed the chief topics of discussion. A wider range of subjects should have been gone over, especially one embracing the cultivation of some of the more common articles of consumption. Most people must eat, and they are awake to any thing that may be profitably cultivated for their own use or for sale. A few only, and these generally of the wealthier class, can spend much time in cultivating flowers. Let it be known that this Society takes up and discusses the best mode of raising useful fruits and vegetables, and their meetings will be well attended and more fully reported.

QUERY.—Will a cow with four teats give more milk than one having but three?

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS, ADDRESSES, REPORTS, &c.

We return our thanks to Rev. A. G. COMINGS for a copy of his able and interesting address before the *Connecticut River Agricultural Society*.

We have also received the list of *Premiums awarded by the Brookfield (N. Y.) Agricultural Society*, and the Report of Committees of the *Massachusetts Horticultural Society* for 1853, with Schedule of Prizes for 1854.

Some friend has also sent us a copy of the *Address of John W. Proctor, Esq., before the Farmers and Mechanics of Hillsborough County,*

N. H. We have been much pleased with a hasty perusal of this.

We have received and examined with much pleasure, the *Transactions of the Windham County (Conn.) Agricultural Society*. This is an admirable report, both of the transactions of the Society, and of the annual address delivered by Wm. S. KING, Esq., editor of the *Journal of Agriculture*. The typographical execution and the excellent paper of this pamphlet of 80 pages, is an honor to the Society, which, as we know personally, is composed of a class of enterprising and thorough go-ahead men.

In addition to the above, we have received a copy of the address of Wm. S. KING before the Hampshire, Franklin, and Hampden (Mass.) Agricultural Society. The address gives very good answers to the two questions, "Will farming pay?" and "How may it be made to pay?"

JOURNAL OF THE UNITED STATES' AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.—Through the kindness of its editor, Mr. KING, we are in receipt of Nos. 3 and 4 in one volume, of nearly 300 pages. Its principal articles are a complete account of the great National Horse Show at Springfield, Mass., last autumn, and the speeches and reports elicited by the exhibition; stallions, their breeding and management, which was copied in No. 20 of our paper; the fecundity of mules, which we intend to copy hereafter; stable economy, &c.; thirty-nine articles in all, forming an excellent variety of reading on the general subjects of agriculture. Many of these articles are written with marked ability, and we recommend the *Journal* to the attention of our friends. The United States' Agricultural Society, of which this journal is the organ, holds its annual meeting at Washington, D. C., on Wednesday, the 22d instant. Success to its proceedings, which we hope will not be marred by the officiousness of politicians.

THE GREAT NATIONAL POULTRY SHOW.

PRACTICAL HINTS.

IN our last we gave a brief notice of the opening of this splendid show of the gallinaceous tribe. We visited the exhibition several times during the week, and each visit increased our admiration of the collection of fowls gathered on this occasion. We are quite sure we express the unanimous opinion of nearly all, if not of all the multitude of visitors, when we say that the display far exceeded that of any other similar show ever held in America. This superiority relates not only to the variety and number of fowls, but also to the general excellence of the specimens. Every class was well represented, including the several families of the Shanghais or large Asiatic breeds, such as Chittagongs, Brahma Pootras, &c.; the different classes of Poland fowls; game fowls, &c.; turkeys, ducks, geese, swans, pea-hens, guinea-hens, pheasants, partridges, quails, pigeons, &c., &c. Where there were so many exhibitors and so many good specimens of so many varieties, it would be unjust to make invidious distinctions, and too tedious to describe the whole particularly. In another place we have given a complete list of the premiums awarded.

One practical result of the exhibition is, that it has shown how much may be done to improve a single class of useful animals, by giving distinct attention to the subject. Who would have

dreamed a few years ago that so great and so beautiful a variety of common farm-poultry, could now be produced in the Northern States? This exhibition showed that very great improvement has been made on a large scale, and that where the right sort of enterprise prevails, it is generally practicable. There is little doubt that a large amount of the animal food of our flesh-consuming people, may yet be profitably produced in the poultry-yard. Shanghai steak, as has been humorously suggested, may yet become, in a great measure, a substitute for the "universal beefsteak." The larger and more valuable varieties of poultry are becoming widely diffused, and the high prices these have hitherto commanded on account of their scarcity, will soon be reduced to a proper level.

The conversational meeting held on the fifth day was pleasant and profitable. We have seldom attended a similar gathering which excelled this in amount of practical information brought out. The debates were lively, and the speeches short and to the point.

The value of the poultry-yard, as a means of giving pleasant and profitable employment to children and to the female part of the household, was alluded to by several gentlemen. A number of breeders gave their experience in regard to the best kind of poultry-houses. The essential points in these were agreed to be pure air, proper temperature, cleanliness, and above all freedom from vermin. The outside ornaments of the poultry-house may safely be left to the taste and wealth of each individual.

It was universally agreed that the perches should be placed low, and so arranged that no exertion of the wings should be required to reach them. The most feasible plan is to arrange them in the form of an inclined ladder, with the rounds near together, and reaching within six inches of the ground. This gives the fowls an opportunity to exercise their choice in regard to high or low perches, and prevents injury in reaching or leaving them.

As to cleanliness, one successful breeder preferred to burn the boxes used as nests, each year, and replace them with new ones. Another thought it sufficient to burn the straw in the box, so as to char the inside thoroughly. Another deemed it sufficient to frequently give them a thorough whitewashing. The experience of all seemed to show that the greatest care is necessary to protect fowl from vermin, and that neglect of this is a great source of loss. We suggest whether it would not be well to thoroughly paint and varnish the coops and nest-boxes, and treat the latter frequently with scalding water. But one of the best preventives we have ever tried, is a heap of bleached ashes or fine dust for them to wallow in at will. This should be renewed occasionally.

In regard to the more common disease, the pip, Mr. NEWELL, of Rochester, N. Y., had found the most effectual treatment to be anointing the head of the fowl with a mixture of equal parts of lard and spirits of turpentine. He also administers two or three of Lee's Anti-bilious pills. Other gentlemen used castor oil with good results. One gentleman had found the best treatment for bad cases of this disease to doctor them as the Dutchman did his dog, cut off the tail just back of the ears.

Dr. MCCLINTOCK, of Philadelphia, one of the oldest and formerly the most extensive breeders

in the country, gave several items from his experience. He had kept a daily written record of the transactions in his poultry-yard. Among other items he stated that one Shanghai pullet, beginning at six months old, had laid 49 eggs in 61 days. *The mother of this chick had in 140 days laid 77 eggs and hatched three broods of chickens.* He said he never raised fowls for sale, and not being influenced by interest he would say, as the result of his long experience and observation that, if a person could keep only one pair of fowls, they should be the gray Shanghais (Brahma Pootras). Mr. NORTH, of New-Haven, looking to beauty as well as profit, preferred the Bolten Gray. Considerable friendly discussion was had upon the different names given to the same varieties. The matter was settled by unanimously adopting the resolution below. This resolution was first presented with a preamble which was left off for the sake of brevity. The preamble gave as a reason for adopting the name "Shanghai" in preference to "Asiatic," that most fowls were of Asiatic origin, and that most of the larger fowls had been imported from Shanghai. The resolution is as follows:

Resolved, That the National Poultry Society recommend that all Asiatic fowls known by the name of Shanghais, Cochin Chinas, Brahma Pootras, or Chittiegongs, be hereafter called Shanghais, being divided only by variations of color.

Another resolution was adopted with the same unanimity, recommending to call all *crested* fowls, *Polands*.

We trust these resolutions will be generally concurred in, as this improved nomenclature will go far to simplify the names now in use.

An exhibitor then proposed a series of resolutions complimenting Mr. BARNUM on his highly successful management of the exhibition, and recommending to Horticultural, Singing-bird, and other societies, the advantages to be derived from making arrangements with him to have their exhibitions held in his Museum.

The resolutions were put and carried with acclamation.

Mr. BARNUM acknowledged the friendly terms in which he had been mentioned in the resolutions, and stated his perfect willingness to comply with the suggestion mentioned in them.

He should be extremely anxious to see an exhibition of Flowers and Singing-birds combined; and if the two societies could agree upon that, he was certain that it would be an admirably successful exhibition.

On the motion of Mr. BARNUM a vote of thanks was passed with applause to Mr. R. McCORMICK, Jr., the Society's Corresponding Secretary.

The meeting then by formal resolutions decided, that Shanghai in future should be spelt S-h-a-n-g-h-a-i, and in like manner the plural shall not be spelt Shanghaes, but S-h-a-n-g-h-a-i-s.

CANADA THISTLES.—A correspondent asks for "a description of the best method of killing the Canada Thistle." We have written on this matter several times, and can but repeat what we have before said, which may be summed up in few words—*don't let them breathe* and they will die a natural death. Their seeds have wings, and to be rid of them, our fence corners, pastures, and woodlands must be kept free from

them, and then we are in danger of receiving seed from our neighbors. An article or two from Western New-York—where Canada thistles are most prevalent—would be quite acceptable, if short, practical, and detailing actual experience in rooting out this pest.

WOOL.—The close of the year leaves a light stock of domestic pulled and fleece wool on the market, but with what still remains in the country it is supposed to be sufficient to supply the wants of manufactures till the new clip is ready for sale. The apprehended scarcity towards the close of last season induced manufacturers to go into the country immediately after shearing, when they bought freely. A considerable portion of the clip has been sold at high rates before shearing, which, with the exorbitant prices asked for the wools left in the hands of farmers, prevented dealers getting their usual supply. The wool still remaining in the country is held several cents above the prices at which it is selling in the market, and it is supposed manufacturers will be compelled to turn their attention to the country for their supply before the next clip will be ready for market.—*Boston Courier*.

BABY SHOW IN GEORGIA.—The following are among the premiums to be awarded at the next Fair of the Southern Central Agricultural Association, for the "handsomest and finest" specimen of babies. We give this timely notice, that those who may find themselves able to comply with the conditions above annexed, may get ready for this great show of infantile humanity which is to come off next fall:

First Premium.—Silver pitcher, \$50, for the handsomest and finest babe two years old.

Second Premium.—Silver pitcher, \$25, for the handsomest and finest babe one year old.

Third Premium.—Silver goblet, \$10, for the handsomest and finest babe six months old.

The children to be clothed in domestic fabrics; the premiums to be awarded under the direction of the Executive Committee.

A BABY SHOW IN MASSACHUSETTS.—A baby show has literally transpired. It occurred at Palmer, on Wednesday evening last, in connection with a Ladies' Fair. Six or eight babies were exhibited, dressed "up to the nines." The committee that passed upon the merits of the little ones, were childless, and awarded the premium of \$8, offered by Mr. Fisk, of the *Palmer Journal*, to a boy baby of Mr. Hardaker. On the announcement of the decision, one bachelor gave a dollar to kiss the premium baby, and another the same sum to kiss the one he thought the prettiest.—*Springfield Republican*, Jan. 30.

A GREAT APPLE TREE.—There is an apple tree in Litchfield, Conn., owned by SOLOMON MARSH, which measures fourteen feet around the trunk, is 130 years old, and produced last season, twenty bushels of apples, of a delicious quality. Previous to 1835, it had yielded near 100 bushels per annum for ages. The tree was brought from Hartford by some of the early settlers of Litchfield.—*Tribune*.

PROLIFIC SWINE.—Mr. Erastus Lester, of Plainfield, owns four sows, which have raised in three years, 280 pigs, 208 of which sold at eight weeks old, for \$733; 72 were fattened, weighing 23,139 pounds, and worth \$1785 49, besides taking the highest premium at the county show.

Mr. John Browning, of Hubbardston, Mass., killed a Suffolk pig, on the day that it was nine months old, which weighed when dressed and well dried off, 485 lbs.

THE POPULATION OF GREAT BRITAIN.—The census of Great Britain, ordered in 1851, has at length been completed and arranged in order for publication. The population is over twenty-

one millions. In 1801 it was less than eleven millions, so that it has nearly doubled in fifty years. The feeling with regard to the Empire is that it has reached about its height in population. The present rage for emigration would show it. The present population gives 233 persons to every square mile and would allow 2 1-7 acres of land to each person. London has a population of 2,362,236, almost as many as the whole of Scotland. Liverpool has 375,955; Glasgow, 329,097; Manchester, including Salford, 401,320. Half of the inhabitants of the kingdom is contained in 815 towns. The whole number of islands around Great Britain is 175. The excess of females in the kingdom over males is given at 512,361.

CONGRESS REMEMBERING AGRICULTURE!

It will be remembered that at the commencement of the present session of Congress, in our remarks upon the President's message, we cut ourselves loose from any obligation to notice the political doings at Washington. Our public men ignored agriculture and we ignored them. We were, then, no less surprised than pleased, at a recent debate (Feb. 8) in the House of Representatives. It will be kept in mind that, thus far, the whole matter of agriculture, seed distribution, &c., has been tacked on to the Patent Office business. The debate reported below explains itself:

The House went into Committee of the Whole on the Deficiency Appropriation bill.

Mr. Clark offered an amendment appropriating \$10,000 for collection of agricultural statistics and procuring of seeds, to be paid out of the Patent Office fund. He explained that foreign governments have sent seeds to the Patent Office and this amount was now necessary to enable the bureau to reciprocate. The \$5000 appropriated last year was totally inadequate. He thought this great interest which without protection has protected all interests and which furnishes employment to four-fifths of our population, may with great propriety ask for this small amount that the Commissioner of Patents may furnish seeds for early distribution, as well as to collect agricultural statistics. No better use could be made of a portion of the funds or one more acceptable to the great body of our citizens than to improve and increase the products of the soil. He had intended to ask for a larger appropriation, but the Chairman of the Ways and Means, with whom he had consulted, thought it was not proper to ask more for seed to be distributed during the coming month.

Mr. Jones (Tenn.) said it seemed to him that those who had had any experience in this thing of getting seeds from the Patent Office must know that of all the humbugs practised by Congress, this is one of the boldest. It was one of most perfect humbugs ever got up by Congress and the Patent Office combined. Of all the seeds distributed by the Patent Office, perhaps not one package of ten will ever come up from the ground, and not more than one-tenth of those which do come up ever prove beneficial to the regions to which they are sent. He agreed with the gentleman entirely, that it is laudable and praiseworthy to protect and improve the agricultural interests of the country. But how can this best be done? By leaving individuals to select and pay for their own seed. An appropriation to buy seeds is in effect an electioneering fund for the members of Congress. They send them to their favorites, while the great body of people have to pay for them. It was a system of favoritism and partiality which should not be practised or recognized by this Government.

The Chairman, Mr. Seymour, put the question on the amendment.

Mr. Hunt complained that several gentlemen wished to address the Chair, but were prevented, owing to the rapidity of the Chairman in putting

the question. He asked for his due privileges. The Chairman replied, the privilege would be given.

Mr. Taylor (Ohio) said that during the last five or six years he had received seeds from the Patent Office which were of great value. Wheat from the Mediterranean, California, and various parts of Europe by being transplanted here had introduced a more useful produce than we have at home, at all events the seeds had prompted experiments, and they thus did good. *The Secretary of the Treasury had estimated fifty-one millions for the support of the Army and Navy, and other branches of Government for the next year, and certainly this paltry sum of ten thousand dollars would not be denied for agriculture.* He was in favor of an agricultural bureau, the establishment of which has been recommended by all the Presidents. [No!—Eus.]

Mr. Houston said he would speak for one agricultural part of the country. It is not too late to sow seeds in the South and South-west, and he suggested whether it would not be better to amend the amendment so as to provide the seeds shall be distributed next fall.

Mr. Sage said if any people more than another were entitled to protection of Congress, it was the agriculturist and farmer. Instead of decreasing, he would increase the appropriation. The gentleman from Tennessee (Mr. Jones) said this was a humbug system. If so, there were greater humbugs legislated on in this hall.

Mr. Hunt remarked that if it was too late to serve one part of the country with seeds, was that a good reason why the other should not be supplied? Should that keep us from doing right? When he heard the friendship of the gentleman from Alabama expressed he distrusted it. Congress is bound to promote the interests of agriculture, and this is the way to do it.

Mr. Houston said the gentleman might entertain whatever opinion he pleased relative to his friendship. He presumed other gentlemen understood he did not oppose the amendment. He merely made the suggestion, which he thought was proper.

Mr. Clark repeated that the different European Governments have sent seeds and bulbs to the Patent Office for distribution, and thus an obligation was imposed upon it to reciprocate, and this appropriation is to carry out that object.

Mr. Jones (Tenn.) said the gentleman had given one of the best reasons which, to his mind, was conclusive against the proposition, and that was, the Commissioner of Patents has agreed to interchange seeds with foreign Governments; thereby he has incurred a responsibility which is not authorized by law. For one, he did not intend to vote to comply with the obligation of any executive officer, from the President down, who has contracted it without the authority of the law.

Mr. Chamberlain said that seeds could be planted in some portions of the country in the spring, and in other portions all the year round. Had it come to this, while we are expending millions of public money for every conceivable purpose under heaven, we cannot even appropriate ten thousand dollars for the great agricultural interests.

Mr. Gerrit Smith said, no doubt the farming interests would greatly benefit by the interchange of seeds, and no doubt the mechanical interest would be greatly benefited by the interchange of mechanical products, but the question was whether Government was the fit agent to do this. His firm belief was that Government has nothing to do with this class of subjects. In attempting to do this it would grossly violate its office and transcend its legitimate province. So long as Government confines itself to its own work it does that work well, and when it departs from its true and only province, there is great danger of doing all its work ill—hence the great abuse of Government. The only office of Government is to hold its shield over the heads of its subjects to shelter them from foreign aggression and protect them from aggression upon

one and another—therefore he hoped the amendment would fail.

Mr. Wade said that Government could not be better employed at present than in promoting the agricultural interest which lies at the foundation of its prosperity. This Government undertakes to uphold every thing but agriculture, while it has established the Patent Office to serve the purpose of mechanical industry. He represented an agricultural people who were anxious that Government should act to promote their best interests. Commerce is fostered by subsidizing the steam marine of the country, and this kind of proceeding gentlemen think right. Commerce can put its hand into the Treasury and recklessly scatter the money of the people, while the gentlemen are parsimonious as to agriculture.

Mr. McMullen was grateful to the gentleman for taking care of agricultural interests. He represented an agricultural community, but thought the appropriation rather extravagant. It is too late in the season to scatter seeds, four-fifths of which will not sprout.

Mr. Middlesworth supported the amendment, coming from an agricultural district in which he knew that the seeds from the Patent Office had been of great benefit. Formerly the farmers were looked upon as unworthy of attention, but this honest and industrious class are now respected as they deserved to be.

Mr. Campbell was in favor of the proposition. He could not concur in the remarks of the gentleman from New-York (Mr. Smith.) It is the duty of Government to protect agricultural and industrial arts. He disliked to see a want of harmony among the friends of freedom of any party. This is a time when they ought to cultivate harmony. He should regret to see that party burst up on the seed question. [Laughter.]

Mr. Simmons said the House would recollect the South has profited by receiving germs of rice and cotton from abroad, even from the East Indies. The promotion of such exchanges is a kind of regulation of commerce. He supposed some gentleman would be coming forward with their grammars and their dictionaries to prove such an appropriation as the amendment proposes is unconstitutional. Government receives all the revenues from duties on imports and the public lands, amounting to fifty millions annually. It discourages the grower to make internal improvements, and is trying to throw on other localities that duty by tuncage duties, while at the same time it sends examiners abroad to search for some nook or corner in South America or Asia for a consul to fill his pockets with the public money, but the States are to do every thing without funds.

Mr. Florence said there was in his District the richest neck of land for supplying the Philadelphia market with vegetables. It was called Passayunk, and was renowned in the political history of Pennsylvania inasmuch as it gave him a majority of votes to send him to Congress. [A Voice—A pretty good vegetable specimen—and laughter.] The people get no protection on God's earth but the little pittance of seeds. He did not like innovation, yet he thought he should vote for the Nebraska bill, but he did not care much for amendments. He stood flat-footed on the Constitution, but this had nothing to do with seeds. [Laughter.] He repeated he wanted to distribute seeds among the reekers to enable them to improve their vegetable products, now the best in the Philadelphia markets. Mr. Pratt said this seems to be a fruitful theme of debate, and affords political capital for those who talk for buncombe. All are friendly to agriculture, while professing to be economists. It is said "time is money." Would it not then be as well to vote the money at once and save that amount in time.

Voices—Yes, yes; question, question.

Mr. Clark's amendment was adopted.

For every dollar that Boston spends upon her city government, she spends a dollar and thirty cents upon her public schools.

LIST OF PREMIUMS AWARDED

AT THE FIRST ANNUAL FAIR OF THE NATIONAL POULTRY SOCIETY,

Held in New-York, on the 13th, 14th, 15th, 16th, 17th, and 18th of February, 1854.

CLASS I.

For the best and largest variety, Silver Cup, \$50, to Richard C. McCormick, Jr., of Woodhaven, Queen's County, Long Island.

For the second best do., Silver Cup, \$25, to J. W. Platt, Rhinebeck, New-York.

For the third best do., \$15, to B. & C. S. Haines, of Elizabethtown, N. J.

For the fourth best do., \$10, to H. Johnson, of Paterson, N. J.

Asiatic Fowls.

For the best pair of Asiatic fowls of whatever sub-variety, Silver Cup, \$20, to John McGowan, of Philadelphia, Pa.

SHANGHAIS—For the best pair or trio of Red or Buff, \$5, to James Sherwood, of Norwalk, Ct.

For the second best do., \$3, to Henderson Greene, of Poughkeepsie, N. Y.

For the best pair or trio of Black do., \$5, to George P. Burnham, of Boston.

For the second best do., \$3, to Richard C. McCormick, Jr., of Woodhaven, Queen's County, Long Island.

For the best pair or trio of White do., \$5, to Richard C. McCormick, Jr., Woodhaven, L. I.

For the second best pair or trio of do., \$3, to J. W. Platt, of Rhinebeck, N. Y.

For the best pair or trio of Dominique do., \$5, to R. C. McCormick, Jr., Woodhaven, Long Island.

For the second best do., \$3, to Sherman Smith, Portchester, N. Y.

For the best pair or trio of Cochins, \$5, to George P. Burnham, of Boston, Mass.

For the second best do., \$3, to J. W. Platt, of Rhinebeck, N. Y.

For the best pair or trio of Brahma Pootras, \$5, to B. & C. J. Haines, of Elizabethtown, N. J.

For the second best do., \$3, to Henry S. Freeman, of Cumberland, R. I.; \$3 to Bennett & Plaisted, Great Falls, N. H.; \$3 to R. C. McCormick, Jr., of Woodhaven, Long Island; \$3 to W. L. Wilson, of New-Britain, Ct.; \$3 to D. B. Haight, of Dover Plains, N. Y.; \$3 to George Smith, of Valley Falls, R. I.

For the best pair or trio of Chittiegongs, \$5, to H. S. Ballou, Blackstone, Mass.

For the second best do., \$3, to G. B. Prindle, of Norwich, Ct.

For the best pair or trio of Javas, \$5, to Dr. G. W. Lawrence, of Catonsville, Md.

For the second best do., \$3, to J. W. Platt, of Rhinebeck, N. Y.

Special premium of \$3 to George P. Burnham, of Boston, Mass., for gray and bronze Shanghais, of great merit.

On All Other Gallinaceous Fowls.

BLACK STANISH—For the second best pair or trio, \$3, to B. & C. J. Haines, Elizabethtown, N. J.

For third best pair or trio, \$2, to Dr. H. H. Porter, of Bushwick, Long Island.

DORKINGS—For the best pair or trio of White, \$4, to R. C. McCormick, Jr., of Woodhaven, Long Island.

For the second best pair or trio, \$2, to J. W. Platt, Rhinebeck, N. Y.

For the best pair or trio of Grey or Speckled, \$4, to R. C. McCormick, Jr., Woodhaven, L. I.

For the second best pair or trio, \$2, to Samuel Faile, Westchester County.

POLANDS—For the best pair or trio of White, \$3, to J. W. Platt, Rhinebeck, N. Y.

For the second best pair or trio of Black, \$2, to S. S. Berden, of Paramus, N. J.

For the best pair or trio of Silver, \$3, to J. W. Platt, of Rhinebeck, N. Y.

For the second best pair or trio of do., \$2, to S. S. Berden, of Paramus, N. J.

GAME—For the best pair or trio of Earl of Derby Game, \$5, to J. K. Twambly, of Dover, N. H.

For the second best pair or trio of do., J. W. Platt, of Rhinebeck, N. Y., \$3.

PILE GAMES—For the best pair or trio, \$5, to R. C. McCormick, Jr., Woodhaven, Long Island.

BLACK GAMES—For the best pair or trio, \$3, to George Brown, of Meriden, Conn.

EBON SUMATRA GAMES—For the best pair or trio, \$5, to J. K. Twambly, of Dover, N. H.

For the second best do., \$3, to B. & C. S. Haines, of Elizabethtown, N. J.

MEXICAN GAMES—For the best pair or trio, \$5, to R. C. McCormick, Jr., Woodhaven, L. I.

CHINESE ALBIN GAMES—For the best pair or trio, \$5, to Bennett & Plaisted, Great Falls, N. H.

BANTAMS—For the best pair or trio of Gold Laced, \$5, to Bennett & Plaisted, Great Falls, N. H.

For the second best do., \$3, to B. & C. S. Haines, of Elizabethtown, N. J.

For the best pair or trio of Silver Laced, \$5, to Bennett & Plaisted, Great Falls, N. H.

For the second best do., \$3, to Roswell L. Colt, of Paterson, N. J.

For the best pair or trio of African, \$5, to B. & C. S. Haines, of Elizabethtown, N. J.

For the second best do., \$2, to J. W. Platt, of Rhinebeck, N. Y.

BOLTON GRAYS—For the second best pair or trio, \$2, to J. W. Platt, of Rhinebeck, N. Y.

DOMINIQUE FOWLS—For the second best pair or trio, \$2, to Joseph Lodge, of Locust Hill, N. J.

CLASS II—TURKEYS.

For the best pair or trio of wild, \$5, to Sherman Smith, of Portchester, N. Y.

For the second best pair or trio of do., \$3, to John Patton, of New-York.

For the best pair or trio of Domestic, \$5, to R. H. Avery, of Brooklyn, L. I.

For the second best do., \$3, to R. C. McCormick, Jr., of Woodhaven, Long Island.

Honorable mention for choice dove-colored Turkeys, exhibited by D. B. Haight, Dover Plains, N. Y.; black Turkeys, exhibited by S. H. Combs, of Mercer Co., N. J., and white Turkeys from J. W. Platt, of Rhinebeck, N. Y.

CLASS III—GUINEA FOWLS.

For the best pair or trio, \$3, to R. C. McCormick, Jr., of Woodhaven, Long Island.

For the second best do., \$2, to A. Maillard, of Bordentown, N. J.

CLASS IV—PEA FOWLS.

For the best pair or trio, \$3, to James Ryder of Gravesend, Long Island.

For the second best do., \$2, to J. W. Platt, of Rhinebeck, N. Y.

Honorable mention of Pea Fowls from R. C. McCormick, Jr., of Woodhaven, Long Island, and J. W. Cropsey, Gravesend, Long Island.

CLASS V—DUCKS.

AYLESBURY—For the best pair or trio, \$5, to R. C. McCormick, Jr., of Woodhaven, Long Island.

For the second best do., \$3, to Sherman Smith, of Portchester, New-York.

MUSCOVY—For the best pair or trio, \$5, to Richard C. McCormick, Jr., of Woodhaven L. I.

For the second best do., \$3, to B. & C. S. Haines, of Elizabethtown, N. J.

TOP-KNOT—for the best pair or trio, \$5, to Wm. Simpson, of West Farms, N. Y.

For the second best do., \$3, to R. C. McCormick, Jr., of Woodhaven, L. I.

CAYUGA BLACK—For the best pair or trio, \$5, to R. C. McCormick, Jr., Woodhaven, L. I.

For the second best do., \$3, to Sherman Smith, of Portchester, N. Y.

COMMON DUCK—Under this caption the Judges have given premium for best pair or trio, \$3, to R. L. Colt, of Paterson, N. J.

For the second best do., \$2, to R. C. McCormick, Jr., of Woodhaven, L. I.

Honorable mention of Chinese white Muscovies, exhibited by G. K. Riker, of Stamford, Conn.

CLASS VI—GEESSE.

BREMEN—For the best pair or trio, \$5, to Sherman Smith, of Portchester, N. Y.

For the second best do., \$3, to G. K. Riker, of Stamford, Ct.

CHINESE—For the best pair or trio, \$5, to R. L. Colt, of Paterson, N. J.

For second best do., \$3, to R. L. Colt, of Paterson, N. J.

AFRICAN—For the best pair or trio, \$5, to Sherman Smith, of Portland, N. Y.

WILD—For the best pair or trio, \$5 to R. L. Colt, of Paterson, N. J.

For the second best do., \$3, to J. W. Platt, of Rhinebeck, N. Y.

Honorable mention or discretionary premium to H. Johnson, of Paterson, N. J., for his Hong Kong Geese.

CLASS VII—SWANS.

For the best pair, \$5, to R. L. Colt, of Paterson, N. J.

For the second best do., \$3, to Isaac E. Haviland, of Hempstead, Long Island.

CLASS VIII—PIGEONS.

For the best and largest variety, \$5, to T. M. Rodman, of West Farms, N. J.

For the second best do., \$2, to R. C. McCormick, Jr., Woodhaven, near Jamaica, L. I.

For the best pair of any distinct variety, \$2, to Wm. Brown, of Brooklyn, N. Y., for pair of Carriers.

CLASS IX—RABBITS.

For the best pair of Lop-Eared, \$5, to George P. Burnham, of Boston, Mass.

For the second best do., \$2, to Bennett & Plaisted, Great Falls, New-Hamshire.

CLASS X—RAT TERRIER DOGS.

For the best specimen, \$5, to John Grieve, of New-York.

For the second best do., \$3, to Salem Dutcher, of New York.

For the third best do., \$2, to Mr. St. John.

CLASS XI—DEER.

For the best buck, \$5, to Wm. McQueen, Schenectady, N. Y.

For the second best do., \$3, to Henry Faile, of West Farms, N. Y.

The report of the Judges on Discretionary Premiums we did not obtain.

The Judges on Asiatic Fowls append to their report the following remarks:

"While the Judges have been governed by the nomenclature of the list, they by no means assent to it as a proper classification. Shanghai and Cochinchina are convertible terms, and Brahma Pootra the popular name for a sub-variety of Shanghaies of great size and beauty. White Calcuttas and Hong Kongs were not on exhibition. Believing them to be inferior specimens of White and Black Shanghaies, it is likely that we would not have awarded them premiums if found. In lieu thereof, we have assigned several additional second premiums for *Brahma Shanghaies*; and also a special premium for two sub-varieties not named in the list. The show of Brahmas doubtless exceeds any thing of the sort ever known, both as to numbers and quality. Cocks of twelve pounds and upward, hens, of ten pounds, and pullets of nine pounds, were quite common, while one coop of four stags, ten months old, averaged nearly twelve pounds apiece. This extraordinary weight as to cocks and hens was also noticed among the other colors. Four years ago a very sensible gentleman wrote that a cock, of any breed, to weigh eight pounds was a good one, and must be in fine order at that. Now we have pullets, ten months old, exceeding that weight. If this progression continues, it will not be long until Shanghaies are sold in *steaks* and *roasts* and by the *quarter*, like prize beef in the market.

"For the sake of simplicity, we would recom-

mend that all thorough-bred large Asiatic Fowls be classed under the name of Shanghai, to be further designated by their color; and, inasmuch as these shows are intended not solely for the aggrandizement of breeders, but for the purpose of converting "Henology" into a science, we would earnestly suggest that all ridiculous, unmeaning *aliases* be abandoned, and a simple intelligible and truthful classification strictly observed. ROBERT WILKINSON, Chairman."

The Judges on Gallinaceous Fowls say that

"They have attended to the duties assigned them, and find the best display of Gallinaceous Fowls ever exhibited in this country. They feel great pleasure in recommending a continual succession of similar Fairs by the National Poultry Society, with every confidence that great benefit will be conferred upon the community at large by thus encouraging and improving the breeds of Domestic Poultry in America. JOHN C. JACKSON, Chairman."

The Judges on Turkeys, Guineas, &c., say:

"With much pleasure we give our measure of praise and satisfaction for the choice and rare deposit of pure bred fowls exhibited by Col. R. L. Colt, of Paterson, N. J., and cordially suggest the award of a discretionary premium* for Mallard Ducks, Wild Black Ducks, Pin Tail Ducks, Java Ducks, Rouen Ducks, Crested Ducks, &c., &c.; also with much satisfaction we give mention to the choice and well-bred stock exhibited by Mr. R. C. McCormick, Jr., of Woodhaven, Long Island.

"CHAS. W. BATHGATE, Chairman."

The Managers request us to state, that the Premium Coops, although worthy in every respect of the flattering preferences exhibited by the able judges, are by no means the sole objects of interest in this great collection. There are many Coops, besides, containing birds so closely approximating in excellence to those which have won the premiums that they are eminently worthy of admiration, while the general Show surpasses in curious and instructive attraction any thing of the kind ever yet exhibited in America. The Managers refer to the display of Game Fowls as very superior, and especially allude to a Mexican Game, presented to Dr. G. W. Lawrence by Capt. Nones, U. S. R. S., to whom it was presented by Gen. Santa Anna.

* A Silver Cup is awarded to Col. Colt, in compliance with this suggestion.

CLAIMS OF AGRICULTURAL PATENTS

ISSUED FOR THE WEEK ENDING FEB. 7, 1854.

WINNERS.—Michael Shimer, Union Township, Pa.: I do not claim the adjustable side alone, but I claim the moveable side in combination with the inclined screen, said combination subserving three purposes, for preventing the grain from passing over the edge of the screen until it has been properly presented to the blast or draft, for particularly cutting off the draft, as the state of the grain may require for expanding the draft of the blast in such a manner that the pure grain will not be carried over into the horizontal part of the trunk.

Second, I claim the square rubber in combination with the circular flanch formed on its lower extremity as described, for the purpose of mashing or grinding all impurities, softer than the wheat, and also for preventing the grain from passing out of the bottom of the hopper before it has been thoroughly pulverized, as described.

WINNERS.—Josiah Turner, & W. C. Steroc, of Sunapee, N. H.: We do not claim the toothed cylinder or thresher with its corresponding toothed concave, nor do we claim either of the devices described separately.

We claim the combination of an oscillating cradle of slanting slat or blind work, as within set forth with the two blowers and the fender, as set forth.

PLOWS.—John S. Holl, of Manchester, Pa.: I claim the hinges constructed in such a way that the edge of the front part of the mold-board

may lap over the edge of the back part or wing of the mold-board to prevent clogging.

POLISHING PLOW HANDLES AND OTHER ARTICLES.—Thomas Blanchard, of Boston, Mass.: I do not claim the invention of an endless polishing or smoothing belt, but what I do claim as new and of my invention, is the above described mode of applying and operating said belt with respect to the article to be smoothed or polished, the same consisting in not only making the said belt to traverse or run on sustaining pulleys or their equivalents, but at the same time to rotate such belt and sustaining contrivances in such manners around the article to be smoothed or polished as to cause the belt while in motion on its rollers to run in contact with and around the surface or article to be reduced, smoothed, or polished.

I also claim, the combination of the feeding carriage, its guides, and the guide rollers or the mechanical equivalents therefor, with the endless polishing belt provided with machinery for imparting to it its compound motion or movement in two directions, as specified.

BLOCKS FOR HORSE COLLARS.—Louis S. Davis, of New-Paris, Ohio: I do not claim as novel, the construction of a horse collar block in expanding sections.

I claim the four-parted collar block of which the front pair of sections are hinged together at the gullet, and the back pair at the neck of the block, as described, the same being combined with a stationary bolt placed at the intersection of the partings, the said bolt serving to unite the base and cap, and also forming a fixed bearing for the right and left hand screw, which in conjunction with the pins on the block and the diverging grooves in the base and cap, effect prolongation and proportional lateral expansion of the block, or device equivalent.

METALLIC HUBS.—J. B. Hayden, of Easton, N. Y.: I do not claim the flanges either with or without radial slots or recesses for the purpose of admitting the spokes.

I claim the disc, in combination with the recesses or saw cuts formed in the end of the spoke, into which the disc is fitted, and acts to secure said spokes in a permanent position, and effectually prevent them working in the hub, as described.

DRESSING SPOKES.—By Ansel Merrell, of New-Bedford, Pa.: I claim the combination of the cam lever, having a screw thread thereon, with the adjustable dogs and supports set forth, whereby the rough stick or block may be held firmly at any required angle to the carriage and at a variable distance below the knives, in order that it may dress spokes of variable taper and of different length and thicknesses.

For the American Agriculturist.

REAPING MACHINES.

CHICAGO, Feb. 7, 1854.

MESSRS. EDITORS:—As a manufacturer, I desire to enter my protest against any more petty trials of reapers. They cost a great deal and amount to nothing. The decision at one trial is reversed the next week at another, perhaps with the same machines, and often the competitors can show their defeat was owing to some extraneous circumstance, as not having a suitable team, bad driving, or unfortunate management in some way.

A reaper trial is not like a horse-race, where the sole object is to beat, regardless of every thing except the coming out ahead; it is, or ought to be, to ascertain surely which is the best machine, and not so much to benefit the owner, as the farmers, who wish to know what kind to buy.

How absurd is it for any set of men—I care not how great their experience and judgment—to take from three to a dozen reapers, perhaps all of acknowledged merit, and by the cutting of two acres each, as was done at the Wooster, Ohio trial, where mine was defeated; or even by cutting five or six acres as at the Richmond,

Ind. trial, where mine was victor, decide positively and absolutely that one reaper is better than all others.

Such a trial might show whether a reaper would work or not, but to judge between rival reapers, of which there are over twenty of established reputation, each having its points of excellence, a long and thorough trial must be requisite, to see how they work in different kinds of grain, and under varied circumstances, and how they wear. A trial to be decisive should go through an entire harvest. One, too, that was thorough and reliable, would be equally available in one State as another. They are also expensive to all concerned. I would therefore propose a general trial on something like the following plan:

Let several State Agricultural Societies unite, each appropriating \$200 to \$500, and appointing one or two committee-men, in whose experience, judgment and fairness, entire confidence could be placed. Let the committee make their arrangements as early as possible, adopt their rules, and appoint time and place of first meeting. They might begin South and proceeding North continue the trial for weeks if necessary, leaving out one machine after another as its inferiority became manifest.

The committee should have all their expenses paid, and perhaps compensation besides; and the cost of removing reapers from place to place might also be borne by the committee, in order to enable every builder to come into the trial; and for this reason I would not require any entrance fee, though some of the larger builders would doubtless be willing to contribute to the general fund. If five or more societies can be got to unite in such a trial, I will contribute \$200 to \$500, or as much as any other builder.

The surplus funds should be divided to the best machines, say half to the first, one-third to the second, and one-sixth to the third, to be paid in plate or money as might be desired by the winner.

To save time and expedite arrangements, I would suggest to parties interested to correspond with Col. B. P. JOHNSON, *Secretary N. Y. State Agricultural Society, Albany, N. Y.* I have not communicated with him, but am quite sure his interest in agricultural matters will cause him to bear the labors with cheerfulness.

Yours respectfully, J. S. WRIGHT.

For the American Agriculturist.

B E E S.

WHY is it that nine of every ten who commence bee-keeping must fail at the end of a few years? When a farmer commences with Horses, Oxen, Sheep, Swine, in short any other stock, he begins with the expectation of continuing the business, as long as it suits his convenience; their nature and habits are studied and understood. But with Bees, in his ignorance of their nature and wants, he is uncertain, and exclaims, "I will keep them as long as I can," and when they are gone, adopt the closing remarks of some one in the *Agriculturist*—"we lost the whole by not guarding them sufficiently against the attacks of the moth."

In tracing effects to their causes, it is important that we go back along the chain as far as possible; that we discover all the links belonging to the subject, and if a remedy is to be applied, apply it when it will have the proper effect. The moth is said to destroy our bees, and so she does; but how many? Let us not accuse her of more than she is guilty. The comb is her field of operations, and here is only the first link, or cause, preceding the effect. We call her an enemy to bees—is not an effort to provide her offspring with food praise-worthy, or would it not be, providing it resulted to our advantage? The good mother never forgets the wants of her offspring. The apple-tree moth glues to the end of the twigs her burden of eggs, and covers them with a water-proof coating—the vernal sun of another spring warms them into life and activity, just as the

leaves constituting their food have burst from the buds. The flesh-fly, true to her instincts scents out the putrid carcase, and there deposits her eggs in the midst of proper aliment. The wax-moth is aware that a different material must feed her young, and accordingly she seeks the combs of the honey-bee often protected by her deadliest foes. Her task is not to be envied, her duties are onerous, and she has difficulties that but few of her tribe encounter. She must elude the vigilance of her numerous enemies. By day, she contracts herself into the smallest possible dimensions, and remains motionless; but at night becomes active and endeavors by persevering sagacity to find the natural guardians of the honey-comb unmindful of duty. It is interesting to witness her proceedings, to see her flit from hive to hive, dreading to enter from fear of the fatal sting, and a rude repulse following nearly every attempt. One while realizing that her whole object in life, her only anxiety is the welfare of her offspring, can hardly help half hoping she may succeed. A passage left for bees to enter a hive containing combs, will be surely found by her continuous search, and our attempts to guard it from her attacks without the assistance of the bees, would be entirely ineffectual. Whoever had a full and thriving family thus destroyed? Is it not our weak stocks, reduced from some other cause, that suffer? It is important then, that we go back another link in the chain beyond the effects of the moth, and attend to causes that reduce the number of natural guardians; ascertain, if the same causes would not as effectually result in destruction, as if assisted by this sagacious foe.

By a little closer attention, we should find much of the blame wrongly applied—loss of queen, diseased brood, and other causes, operate surely and fatally! Diseased brood with me has been more fatal a thousand-fold than the moth; and I am disposed to think there are many others, equal if not greater pests than the moth. As long as the return of good seasons brings out new swarms to supply the place of the old thus lost, the effect is less perceptible; but when a season occurs like the last, in this and the adjoining counties, where not one stock in ten casts a swarm, the strides of "bad luck" are very lengthy. This disease alone will reduce the stocks by the first of June next one-half from the year previous! I have taken considerable trouble to ascertain in regard to this matter. I found in some apiaries that four-tenths were dead already in December last, and many others too weak to withstand the first turn of severe weather. Another portion will survive the winter, to be plundered in the spring, or, escaping that, when they should be throwing off swarms, will be sufficiently reduced for the moth. Now ask these discouraged bee-keepers the cause of their loss, and there will not be more than one in twenty, that will go beyond the moth, the robbers, or the winter. And yet, when the larva of the flesh-fly, consumes the putrid flesh of a favorite beast, it would be about as rational to charge them with the life of the animal. It is the healthy families alone that can escape downright ruin; and we shall be recompensed by assisting only such as may be temporarily weak, but will soon get strong and defend themselves. This article is already longer than I intended, and I cannot at present detail all my views, as to the origin and spreading of the disease, but will recommend, however, this motto, "*Know the actual condition of your bees at all times,*" and whenever too few bees are present to defend their stores, (unless it is a temporary result,) be sure and secure the honey and wax in advance of the moth.

M. QUINBY,

Author of "Mysteries of Bee-keeping Explained."

St. Johnsville, Mont. Co., N. Y., Feb., 1854.

WHEN the late Lord Erskine, then going the circuit, was asked by his landlord how he had slept, he replied, "Union is strength—a fact of which your inmates seem to be unaware, for had the fleas been unanimous last night, they

might have pushed me out of the bed." "Fleas," exclaimed Boniface, affecting great astonishment, "I was not aware that I had a single one in the house." "I don't believe you have," retorted his lordship; "they are all married, and have uncommonly large families."

For the American Agriculturist.

ANOTHER AGRICULTURAL RAILROAD.

THERE is a mutual dependence between town and country; whatever benefits one benefits the other also. Railroads, plankroads, turnpikes, and canals all tend to build up the city, and likewise promote the agricultural interests of the country where they are located. There is seldom much spare capital in the country, but there is a redundancy in the city. City capital therefore is looked to as the means to develop the resources of the country, by opening a market for its produce. Every railroad, plank-road, turnpike and canal, is a stream of greater or less capacity pouring the wealth of the country into the city, for their mutual benefit. Our state (New Jersey) is doing much now to supply the markets of New-York and Philadelphia, but not a moiety of what she is capable of doing. The Air-line railroad that is talked of from Keyport to Cape May county, if made, will do much to develop her resources.

Another railroad ought immediately to be made from Keyport or Union to Long Branch. It would traverse a fine agricultural region not as yet half cultivated, and yet even now sending immense quantities of produce to the New-York market. Four steamboats are running on the Neversink and Shrewsbury rivers; but the navigation of those rivers is both tedious and uncertain, and it is feared must ever remain so. The proposed railroad would supersede these boats, for the time of transit would be shortened nearly one-half and be more certain, besides escaping that unpleasant sea-sickness that is invariably experienced when the weather is otherwise than perfectly calm. This road would be but about 16 miles in length, and very soon after being finished it would do as much business as it was capable of doing, and would therefore be good stock.

Another advantage of this road would be to make Long Branch, which is now a favorite watering-place, still more a favorite from its accessibility to the citizens of New-York. If capitalists would look at this matter in its true light, they would at once be satisfied that both of the roads above spoken of, could not be made too soon.

A FRIEND TO IMPROVEMENTS.

Shrewsbury, N. J., Feb. 13, 1854.

Markets.

REMARKS.—Flour has declined the past week 25 to 31½ cts. per barrel. Rye flour and Wheat and Rye have fallen in a corresponding ratio. Oats and Corn remain nearly as per our last. Beef a slight advance; pork and lard a decline; wool is looking up.

Cotton has fallen from ¼ to ½ cent per lb.; sugar is more buoyant; rice no change; tobacco a little improvement.

Money is a trifle easier—worth outside of the Banks from 8 to 15 per cent.

Stocks are more firm, and considerable investments going on.

From the Mark Lane Express, Jan. 30th.

REVIEW OF THE BRITISH CORN TRADE.

In the first place we have had more liberal deliveries from the growers; secondly, there have been offers of Wheat from several of the near continental ports from whence it was previously supposed no supplies could be obtained. Under these circumstances buyers have found

it politic to suspend their operations, deeming it more than probable that, by holding off for awhile, they might succeed in purchasing on somewhat easier terms. On several occasions, when the excitement was at its greatest height, we have directed attention to the possibility of a reaction in case the northern ports of Europe should be set free from ice earlier than usual, and the Turko-Russian quarrel be arranged without involving the western powers of Europe in war; and we again repeat that, under such a train of events, our present high prices would not be maintained. The weather is, and has for some time, been mild on the continent; some of the near ports are already open, and there is a prospect of the navigation of the Baltic being practicable shortly; but, with regard to whether we are to have war or peace, matters appear to us to remain in the same state of doubt and uncertainty as before. So long as this continues to be the case, it would be worse than useless to offer any but a conditional opinion as to the probable future range of prices. We are inclined to think that quotations of Wheat are now sufficiently high to draw supplies to this country to an extent which would guard us against absolute scarcity, provided nothing should occur to interfere in any way with the free transit of the article from those places where there may be a surplus for export to those countries requiring aid. Great Britain and France are certainly in the latter position; and of all the nations of Europe, Russia is certainly the one best able to afford supplies. It is therefore almost certain that a definite solution of the question whether we are at peace or war with that kingdom would have an immediate and direct effect on the value of food here and in France. A few days (perhaps, before what we are now writing shall have met the eyes of our readers) the question will have been settled; for there can be no doubt that Ministers will have to afford definite information as to our relations with Russia, immediately after Parliament shall have been assembled.

The *Mark Lane Express* of 6th Feb., one week later than the above, maintains the same views and contains nothing further of interest in regard to the Corn Market, but holds out the prospect of high prices. This opinion is founded upon the strong prospects of a general war. Farmers need not fear putting in too much grain the coming Spring.

PRODUCE MARKETS.

Wholesale prices of the more important Vegetables, Fruits, &c. Washington Market, New-York, Feb. 18, 1854.

VEGETABLES.—Potatoes, Carters, ½ bbl., \$3 25@3 50; Mercers, \$3 25@3 50; Western Reds, \$2 75; Junes, \$3; Sweet Potatoes, ½ bbl., \$4@4 25; Cabbages, ½ 100, \$6 @6 50; Savoy, \$5@5 50; Red Cabbage, ½ doz, \$7@8; Onions yellow ½ bbl., \$3; red do., \$1 75@2; Parsneps ½ bbl., \$2 25; Carrots, ½ bbl., \$1@1 50; Beets, \$1 25@1 50; Turnips Ruta Baga, ½ bbl., \$1 75; white do., \$1 75@2; Celery, ½ doz. bunches, \$1@1 25; Parsley, ½ doz. bunches, 25@37½c.

FRUITS.—Apples, Greenings, ½ bbl., \$3@3 50; Russets, ½ bbl., \$2 75@3; Spitzenburgs, ½ bbl., \$3@3 50; Gilliflower, ½ bbl., \$3; Signefathers, ½ bbl., \$3@4 75; Swaar, ½ bbl., \$4; Cranberries, ½ bbl., \$5@5 50.

NEW-YORK CATTLE MARKET.

Monday, February 20, 1854.

The market is reported as better than it was last week, and improving all around. We noticed some very fine sheep fed by Mr. JAMES BALDWIN, of Berkshire County, of the English breed. The average weight was calculated to be 200 lbs. dressed. They were held at from \$30 to \$40 each.

Prices of Beef ranged rather higher than last week's quotations, and may stand as follows:

Lowest price, 8½c.
Middling beef, 9½c.
Best, 10½c.

Washington Yards, Forty-fourth street.

A. M. ALLERTON, Proprietor.

RECEIVED DURING THE WEEK.	IN MARKET TO-DAY.
Beefes, 2,232	2,070
Cows, 25	25
Calves, 1028	1303
Sheep, 1028	1028

Swine, 573 573
Of these there were forwarded by the Harlem Railroad, beefes, 112; cows, 25; sheep, 568; calves, 503.
By the Hudson River railroad, beefes, 700.
By the Erie railroad, beefes, 900; sheep, 460; swine, 573.
New-York State furnished 444 by cars; on foot, 46.
From Pennsylvania, on foot, 192.
Ohio by cars, 714.
Virginia, on foot, 118.
Connecticut, on foot, 32.
Kentucky, by cars, 303.

Mr. A. M. ALLERTON reports the price of swine at 6c. gross weight, and in good demand.

CHAMBERLIN'S, Robinson street.

RECEIVED DURING THE WEEK.	IN MARKET TO-DAY.
Beefes, 300	40
Cows and Calves, 50	15
Sheep, 2,800	
Veals, 20	

BROWNING'S, Sixth street.

Beefes, 375	
Cows, 82	
Sheep, 2,711	

O'BRIEN'S, Sixth street.

Beefes, 196	
Cows, 53	
Sheep, 800	

Cows with calves bring from \$30 to \$60, according to quality; veals, 5 to 7c. is the average; sheep from \$3 to \$10, with the exception of the eight above mentioned.

PRICES CURRENT.

Produce, Groceries, Provisions, Lumber, &c.

Ashes.
Pot, 1st sort, 1853..... 100 lbs. 5 93½@ —
Pearl, 1st sort, 1852..... 6 62½@ —

Bristles.
American, Gray and White..... 40 @— 45

Coal.
Liverpool Orrel..... 10 50 @ 14 —
Scotch..... 7 75 @ 50
Sidney..... 8 50 @ —
Pictou..... 8 50 @ —
Anthracite..... 2,000 lb. 6 50 @ 7 —

Cotton.
Atlantic Ports. Florida. Other Gulf Ports.
Inferior..... 7½@8½ 7½@8½ 7½@8½
Low to good ord..... 9½@10½ 10½@11½ 11 @11½
Low to good mid..... 10 @11 11½@11½ 11½@12
Mid. fair to fair..... 11½@12 12 @12 12 @12
Fully fr. to good fr..... 12½@13 13 @13 13 @13
Good and fine..... 13 @13 13 @13 13 @13

Cotton Bagging.
Gunny Cloth..... 11½@11½
American Kentucky..... 11½@11½
Dundee..... 11½@11½

Flour and Meal.
Sour..... 6 25 @ 6 62½
Superfine No. 2..... 8 — @ 8 25
State, common brands..... 8 68½@8 75
State, Straight brand..... 8 75 @ 8 81½
State, favorite brands..... 8 87½@9 —
Western, mixed do..... 8 87½@9 —
Michigan and Indiana, Straight do..... 9 — @ 9 06½
Michigan, fancy brands..... 9 06½@9 12½
Ohio, common to good brands..... 8 87½@9 06½
Ohio, round hoop, common..... 8 87½@9 —
Ohio, fancy brands..... 9 12½@9 18½
Ohio, extra brands..... 9 25 @10 —
Michigan and Indiana, extra do..... 9 12½@9 75
Genesee, fancy brands..... 9 12½@9 31½
Genesee, extra brands..... 9 37½@11 —
Canada, (in bond)..... 8 62½@8 87½
Brandywine..... 9 — @ 9 12½
Georgetown..... 9 — @ 9 12½
Petersburgh City..... 9 — @ 9 12½
Richmond Country..... 8 87½@9 —
Alexandria..... 8 87½@9 —
Baltimore, Howard Street..... 8 87½@9 —
Rye Flour..... 6 12½@6 25
Corn Meal, Jersey..... — @ 4 50
Corn Meal, Brandywine..... 4 93½@5 —
Corn Meal, Brandywine..... 21 @ —

Grain.
Wheat, White Genesee..... 2 25 @ 2 28
Wheat, do., Canada (in bond)..... 2 10 @ 2 20
Wheat, Southern, White..... 2 05 @ 2 20
Wheat, Ohio, White..... 2 05 @ 2 16
Wheat, Michigan, White..... 2 15 @ 2 25
Wheat, Mixed Western..... 2 05 @ 2 08
Wheat, Western Red..... 1 97 @ 2 03
Rye, Northern..... 1 20 @ —
Corn, Unsound..... 1 10 @ —79
Corn, Round Yellow..... 97 @ —103
Corn, Round White..... 103 @ —104
Corn, Southern White..... 104 @ —105
Corn, Southern Yellow..... 96 @ —97
Corn, Southern Mixed..... 1 01 @ 1 02
Corn, Western Mixed..... 97 @ 1 02
Corn, Western Yellow..... — @ —
Barley..... 95 @ 1 05
Oats, River and Canal..... 52 @ —54
Oats, New-Jersey..... 48 @ —50
Oats, Western..... 54 @ —55½
Oats, Penna..... 50 @ —52
Oats, Southern..... 46 @ —48
Peas, Black-eyed..... 2 75 @ 2 87½
Peas, Canada..... 1 18½@1 20
Beans, White..... 1 50 @ 1 62½

Sisal.....	10	@	—
Sunn.....	5 1/2	@	—
Italian.....	ton, 240	@	—
Jute.....	120	@	125
American, Dew-rotted.....	195	@	200
American, do., Dressed.....	210	@	260
American, Water-rotted.....	—	@	—
Hops.....	—	@	—
1853.....	lb. 40	@	44
1852.....	38	@	40
Lime.....	—	@	—
Rockland, Common.....	bbl. —	@	1 13
Lumber.....	—	@	—
Timber, White Pine.....	cubic ft. —	@	22
Timber, Oak.....	25	@	30
Timber, Grand Island, W. O.....	35	@	38
Timber, Geo. Yel. Pine.....	(by cargo) 18	@	22
Timber, Oak Scantling.....	M. ft. 80	@	40
Timber, or Beams, Eastern.....	17 50	@	18 75
Plank, Geo. Pine, Worked.....	—	@	35
Plank, Geo. Pine, Unworked.....	20	@	25
Plank and Boards, N. R. Clear.....	37 50	@	40
Plank and Boards, N. R. 2d qual.....	30	@	35
Boards, North River, Box.....	16	@	17
Boards, Albany Pine.....	pce. 16	@	22
Boards, City Worked.....	22	@	24
Boards, do. narrow, clear ceiling.....	25	@	—
Plank, do., narrow, clear flooring.....	25	@	—
Plank, Albany Pine.....	26	@	32
Plank, City Worked.....	26	@	32
Plank, Albany Spruce.....	18	@	20
Shingles, Pine, split and shaved.....	2 25	@	3
Shingles, Cedar, 3 ft. 1st qual.....	M. 4	@	28
Shingles, Cedar, 3 ft. 2d quality.....	22	@	25
Shingles, Cedar, 2 ft. 1st quality.....	19	@	21
Shingles, Cedar, 2 ft. 2d quality.....	17	@	18
Shingles, Cypress, 3 ft.....	32	@	—
Shingles, Cypress, 2 ft.....	—	@	16
Shingles, Cypress, 3 ft.....	—	@	22
Staves, White Oak, Pipe.....	65	@	—
Staves, White Oak, Hhd.....	52	@	—
Staves, White Oak, Bbl.....	40	@	—
Staves, Red Oak, Hhd.....	38	@	35
Heading, White Oak.....	60	@	—
Molasses.....	—	@	—
New-Orleans.....	gal. 29	@	—
Porto Rico.....	24	@	28
Cuba Muscovado.....	25	@	27
Trinidad Cuba.....	25	@	27
Cardenas, &c.....	23 1/2	@	24
Nails.....	—	@	—
Cut, 4d @ 60d.....	lb. 4 1/2	@	5
Wrought, 6d @ 20d.....	—	@	—
Naval Stores.....	—	@	—
Turpentine, Soft, North County.....	280 lb. —	@	5 75
Turpentine, Wilmington.....	—	@	5 50
Tar.....	bbl. 3	@	3 50
Fitch, City.....	2 75	@	—
Resin, Common, (delivered).....	1 75	@	1 97 1/2
Resin, White.....	280 lb. 2 50	@	4 75
Spirits Turpentine.....	gal. 66	@	68
Oil Cake.....	—	@	—
Thin Oblong, City.....	ton, —	@	—
Thick, Round, Country.....	—	@	28
Thin Oblong Country.....	—	@	23
Provisions.....	—	@	—
Beef, Mess, Country.....	bbl. 8 25	@	11 50
Beef, Prime, Country.....	6	@	5 37 1/2
Beef, Mess, City.....	13	@	13 50
Beef, Mess, extra.....	15 50	@	16 50
Beef, Prime, City.....	7 25	@	7 75
Beef, Mess, repacked, Wisconsin.....	—	@	14
Beef, Prime, Mess.....	pce. 20	@	23
Pork, Mess, Western.....	bbl. 15 75	@	16
Pork, Prime, Western.....	13 50	@	—
Pork, Prime, Mess.....	14 88	@	16
Pork, Clear, Western.....	—	@	17
Lard, Ohio, Prime, in barrels.....	lb. —	@	10 1/2
Hams, Pickled.....	8 1/2	@	9
Hams, Dry Salted.....	—	@	8 1/2
Shoulders, Pickled.....	6 1/2	@	6 1/2
Shoulders, Dry Salted.....	—	@	6 1/2
Beef Hams, in Pickle.....	bbl. 13	@	15 50
Beef, Smoked.....	lb. 9	@	9 1/2
Butter, Orange County.....	22	@	24
Butter, Ohio.....	12	@	16
Butter, New-York State Dairies.....	16	@	21
Butter, Canada.....	12	@	15
Butter, other Foreign, (in bond).....	—	@	—
Cheese, fair to prime.....	10	@	12
Plaster Paris.....	—	@	—
Blue Nova Scotia.....	ton, 3 50	@	3 75
White Nova Scotia.....	3 50	@	3 62 1/2
Salt.....	—	@	—
Turks Island.....	bush. —	@	48
St. Martin's.....	—	@	—
Liverpool, Ground.....	sack, 1 10	@	1 12 1/2
Liverpool, Fine.....	1 45	@	1 50
Liverpool, Fine, Ashton's.....	1 72 1/2	@	1 75
Saltpetre.....	—	@	—
Refined.....	6 1/2	@	8
Crude, East India.....	7	@	7 1/2
Nitrate Soda.....	5	@	5 1/2
Seeds.....	—	@	—
Clover.....	lb. 10	@	11 1/2
Timothy, Mowed.....	tce. 14	@	17
Timothy, Reaped.....	17	@	20
Flax, American, Rough.....	bush. —	@	—
Linseed, Calcutta.....	—	@	—
Sugar.....	—	@	—
St. Croix.....	lb. —	@	—
New-Orleans.....	4	@	6 1/2
Cuba Muscovado.....	4 1/2	@	6
Porto Rico.....	4 1/2	@	6 1/2

Havana, White.....	7 1/2	@	8
Havana, Brown and Yellow.....	5	@	7 1/2
Manilla.....	5 1/2	@	—
Brazil White.....	6 1/2	@	7
Brazil, Brown.....	5	@	—
Stuart's, Double-Refined, Leaf.....	9 1/2	@	—
do. do. Crushed.....	9 1/2	@	—
do. do. Ground.....	9 1/2	@	—
do. (A) Crushed.....	9	@	—
do. 2d quality, Crushed.....	none.	@	—

Tobacco.....	—	@	—
Virginia.....	lb. —	@	—
Kentucky.....	7	@	10
Mason County.....	6 1/2	@	11
Maryland.....	—	@	—
St. Domingo.....	12	@	18
Cuba.....	18 1/2	@	23 1/2
Yara.....	40	@	45
Havana, Fillers and Wrappers.....	25	@	1
Florida Wrappers.....	15	@	60
Connecticut Seed Leaf.....	6	@	20
Pennsylvania Seed Leaf.....	5 1/2	@	15

Tallow.....	—	@	—
American, Prime.....	lb. 11 1/2	@	12 1/2
Wool.....	—	@	—
American, Saxony Fleece.....	lb. 50	@	55
American, Full-blood Merino.....	46	@	48
American 1/2 and 3/4 Merino.....	42	@	45
American, Native and 1/4 Merino.....	36 1/2	@	38
Extra, Pulled.....	42	@	48
Superfine, Pulled.....	39	@	41
No. 1, Pulled.....	33	@	37

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Advertisements for the American Agriculturist must be paid for in advance.

FOR SALE AT THE SOUTH NORWALK NURSERY, THE Great New Rochelle or Lawton Blackberry Plants; also plants of the White fruited Blackberry. For sale also a large stock of small plants of the new or North River Red Antwerp plants, at the low price of fifteen dollars per thousand. The above plants all warranted.

GEO. SEYMOUR & CO.,
South Norwalk Nursery, Conn.

WANTED—A GARDENER—one who understands his business, and can bring the best recommendations.—
A married man preferred. Apply to S. 189 Water street.

ATKINS' SELF-RAKING REAPER—40 of these machines were used last harvest in grass or grain or both, with almost uniformly good success, in nine different States and Canada. TWENTY-SIX PREMIUMS, including two at the Crystal Palace, (silver and bronze medals,) were awarded it at the autumn exhibitions. I am building only 300, which are being rapidly ordered. Mr. Joseph Hall, Rochester, N. Y., will also build a few. Early orders necessary to insure a reaper.

Price at Chicago \$175—\$75 Cash with order, note for \$50, payable when reaper works successfully, and another for \$50, payable 1st December next with interest. Or \$160 cash in advance. Warranted to be a good Self-Raking Reaper. Agents properly recommended, wanted throughout the country. Experienced agents preferred. It is important this year to have the machines widely scattered. Descriptive circulars with cuts, and giving impartially the difficulties as well as successes of the reaper, mailed to post-paid applications. J. S. WRIGHT.
"Prairie Farmer" Warehouses, Chicago, Feb., 1854.

TREES AND PLANTS.—PARSONS & CO., FLUSHING, near New-York, offer for sale their usual assortment, with the addition of many rare novelties of Fruit Trees, for the Orchard and the Garden; Ornamental Trees, Shrubs, and Roses, for the Avenue, Lawn, or Cemetery; Vines for the Grapery, and Exotic Plants for Greenhouse culture. Catalogues can be obtained at No. 60 Cedar street, or will be sent by mail to all post-paying applicants enclosing a postage stamp.

AGENTS WANTED FOR EVERY STATE IN THE UNION, to canvass for FANNING'S ILLUSTRATED GAZETTEER OF THE UNITED STATES, noticing 23,275 Post towns, the population (census of 1850) of most of the places in the United States.

The work contains a map of every State in the Union, and a map of fourteen of the largest cities. Price in full leather binding, \$1 75; in strong neat half bound, \$1 50; and for an addition of 25 cents on each copy, a large colored Map of the United States, showing the Isthmus and the Land Route to California. Address, post-paid, ENSIGN, BRIDGEMAN & FANNING, 156 William street, N. Y.

POUDRETTE.
THE LODI MANUFACTURING COMPANY OFFER their Poudrette for sale in lots to suit purchasers, from a single barrel up to 4000 barrels, at their usual rates, \$1 50 per barrel for any quantity over seven barrels, delivered on board of vessel in the city of N. York, free of cartage or other charge. When 200 or 500 barrels are taken, a deduction will be made from the above price. That this article has stood the test of fourteen years trial is proof of its efficacy. It is the cheapest and best manure for corn ever produced, and it has the advantage of being useful in small quantities and harmless in large. It is a capital manure for peas, strawberries, &c., and all garden vegetables. Apply by letter or personally to the Lodi Manufacturing Company.
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BEE-KEEPING EXPLAINED.

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Mysteries as a Guide,

every one can keep Bees, as well as other stock.

A NEW FEATURE OF THE BOOK

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That it is not Written to introduce a PATENT HIVE, but contains PLAIN PRACTICAL DIRECTIONS for obtaining from a common hive the

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With minute directions for the

SWARMING SEASON,

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To ascertain the LOSS OF QUEENS, AND THE REMEDY.

Preserving honey from the moth. How to avoid the spreading of disease among the brood, and ravages of the moth among the combs.

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The publisher offers this book to the public with full confidence, believing it contains more reliable and truthful directions for managing Bees, than all other books combined.

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DEALERS IN BUTTER, CHEESE, AND LARD, ARE constantly receiving large supplies of the above, which will be sold at the very lowest market prices. Goshen and Western Butter, in tubs and firkins. Cheese in casks and boxes. Lard in barrels, tubs and kegs. For sale at
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WHOLESALE FISH STORE.—500 BBL'S SALMON, 3000 bbl's Mackerel, first quality, 3000 Small Packages Mackerel, 200 bbl's New Shad, 500 halfs Shad, 1000 bbl's New Herring, 300 halfs New Herring, 1000 quintals New-Dried Cod, fish, 500 Jars New Anchovies, 500 Kegs New Dutch Herring, 2000 Boxes New Smoked Herring, 3000 lbs. New Smoked Salmon, 500 Kitts New Soused Salmon, 500 Kegs New Spiced Herring, Sword-Fish, Blue-Fish, Pickled Cod, Haddock, Halibut, White-Fish, Sturgeon, Trout, Dun-Fish, &c.

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